

THE STOCKADE



Spring 1995

ISSUE : 16 Sileby Community Magazine

The cover for this edition is a photograph of a long demolished house. Any of you who have lived in the village for a long time will recognise it. However there will be lots of villagers who did not even know that there had been a house there. For those people we will publish the whereabouts in the next edition.

There are three people in the photograph who we don't know so if anybody recognises themselves or know who they are we would like to know.

Please can we have any contributions for the 17th, Summer 1995, edition of the Stockade with us by 30th April (earlier if possible).

You can leave any submissions at:-

WRIGHTS BUTCHERS, HIGH STREET
SILEBY LIBRARY, COSSINGTON ROAD
GLENN LEWIN, BUTCHERS, RATCLIFFE ROAD/HIGHGATE ROAD CORNER

or you can send articles to:-

THE STOCKADE
c/o 16, SPRINGFIELD ROAD
SILEBY

Editorial Committee:-

Tom Mugridge	Sileby 813142	Liz Robinson	Sileby 812871
Eric Wright	Sileby 814472	Janis Bishop	Sileby 814754

Views expressed in the articles printed in The Stockade are those of the contributors and not necessarily those of the Editorial Committee.

We would like to thank everyone for their help in producing this community magazine, to all the contributors, distributors, advertisers and those of you who have worked very hard in typing in and proof reading. Everyone's work is greatly appreciated.

We hope you've enjoyed this edition!

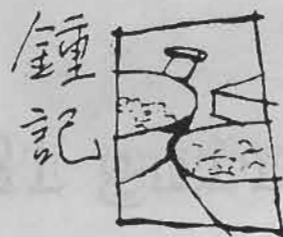
STOCKADE DEADLINE FOR THE
SUMMER EDITION IS 30TH APRIL

Please let us have your articles, diary dates, club
details etc as early as possible.

Any offers for a front cover?

Thank you for your support.

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EDITORIAL

There has been a lot of publicity regarding the vandalism in the village. There is even a large reward for information leading to the apprehension and conviction of those responsible. Nobody has been arrested despite this huge reward and in fact further vandalism has occurred - namely the railway station.

Somebody must know who is doing this vandalism - if no one gives any information to the police no doubt it will continue and the villagers have to foot the bill.

Another point to bear in mind is this. If these "people" are allowed to continue vandalising the village then, on the assumption that they are not yet married, when they do their offspring will be brought up with the same values as their parents. Can we therefore only look forward to a society where when people feel like damaging other people's property then they can just go ahead and do it?

Let us analyse the damage to date:-

1. The Cemetery - it must have given a lot of pleasure knocking down headstones. The end result is the employment of a security firm by the parish council reflected in possible increase in the parish rate or the cost of burials.

2. The Railway Station - lots of broken glass lying about. This raises the spectre that after all the effort put into the re-opening of the station it could become too expensive to keep it open with the consequence that the village becomes more isolated than ever.

3. Redlands School - broken windows in the school. As the school has only a limited amount of money to spend then the more that is spent repairing the vandalism then the less there is for the education of our children.

So come on, will the people who know who has done the vandalism tell the police, never mind the reward, think of the future of the village.

We would like to remind all those people who have the village's interests at heart and would like to do something for the village that the ELECTIONS for Parish Council are coming up in May so let's have some new candidates.

Enough of the serious stuff. Our thanks to Amy Fisk for the only entry in our "Colour the Clown" competition.

NEED PHOTOGRAPHS TAKING?

Valuables for insurance? Cakes? Babies? Pets?
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NEWS FROM SILEBY PARISH COUNCIL (Compiled by Cllr L Gordon Ward)

Please send replies or comments to:-

The Clerk to the Council
Parish Council Office
41 High Street
Sileby, LE12 7RX

Sileby Scout Group
Summer Fayre with a Car Boot
June 10th, Redlands School field 12 - 4pm.

PARISH COUNCIL ELECTIONS 1995

The Parish Council and District Council Elections are due again this year. They are held every four years. If you are interested sufficiently in your village and wish to be involved in council work the following information will assist you.

The date of the elections is **Thursday 4th May 1995**. Nomination papers will be available from the beginning of March from the Clerk to the Parish Council at the address above, or from the Returning Officer, Macaulay House, 5 Cattle Market, Loughborough, LE11 3OH.

The closing date for nomination papers is not later than 12 noon on Tuesday 4th April 1995.

Most Parish Councillors seek election mainly because they are anxious to help the community in which they live. They recognise that the decisions taken by local authorities vitally affect the quality of life within their area and realise that the role of the local council is of critical concern to the community it represents. A good keen councillor will make every effort to become involved in all aspects of council work, by joining the various committees both on the council and on outside organisations connected to the council. Being a councillor does not just mean attending a minimum of two meetings during the year, but having an input into most of the council meetings and the general life of the village. Why not give it a try this year?

If you are interested, contact the Council Clerk for a nomination paper during March. There are 15 seats to fill on the council, 8 on St Mary's Ward - which covers the area to the north of the Brook, and 7 on St Gregory's Ward which covers area to the south of the Brook. Please, think hard about becoming a councillor for the council's 101st year.

COUNCIL CENTENARY CELEBRATIONS

Last year the Parish Council celebrated 100 years of work within the village and held an exhibition at the Community Centre, which was extremely well supported. The Council wish to thank everyone who helped at the exhibition and everyone who visited the displays. Special thanks to the Sileby Photographic Society whose members put on the slide show. We have had so many complimentary comments and requests for a "Re-Run" that the council has decided to put the exhibition on again as a two day event in March or April. Any 'extra' photographs etc will be gratefully accepted at the Council Office. Watch out for the posters with details.

SPORTS INJURY & PHYSIOTHERAPY CLINIC

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- PAIN RELIEF

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SILEBY 0509 816673

CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING AND CAROL SINGING

What a wonderful sight it was to see Martins Walk, Dudley Bridge, Brook Street and Back Lane Bridge filled with the supporting public who turned out for the occasion.

It was also great that Mrs Gail Moore of the "Rainbows" along with her many supporters came along to "switch-on" the lights on the tree. It was also pleasing to see so many at the Community Centre afterwards. The Council chairman, Mr Tom Machin wishes to convey his most sincere thanks to everyone for the financial support for his charity which was the "Rainbows". The final result was:-

Collecting tins	£120.36
Raffle	£61.00
Rainbow Stall	£11.80
TOTAL	£193.16
Added by the Council	£45.00
GRAND TOTAL	£238.16

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The Council have received a letter of thanks from Mr Alan Higgs, of "The Friends of Rainbows".

The only down-side to the celebrations was caused by the inconsiderate attitude of some member or members of the public who decided to "rob" the village council tax payers by stealing the bulbs from the tree on two separate occasions, which added over £150 to the costs of the Christmas display.

One may ask "Why do they do it?" and "How do we stop it?" Why not write to the Stockade or the Council with your comments?

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FLUORIDATION OF THE WATER SUPPLY

Again this subject has raised its ugly head. In 1989 the public voted "No" to the addition of fluoride in the water supply, through a news organisation "poll". 61,281 said "No" and only 4,394 said "Yes". It has recently been reported that there will be no debate on the adding of fluoride in the water.

Your Council has again written to say it is still opposed to the compulsory addition of a chemical of questionable benefit to the people it is supposed to help.

We question "Why waste money on putting fluoride into our water when some 95% is not even consumed by children or the public". What are your views? Write to the Council or the Stockade. If there is another "poll" in the futureUSE YOUR CHANCE TO VOTE.

V.E DAY 50TH ANNIVERSARY - 8TH MAY 1995

No information is available at the moment on the arrangements being made to celebrate the occasion. Watch out for details locally and in the local press.

CEMETERY VANDALISM

It is with great regret that I have to include a report about the disgraceful and devastating attack on the cemetery in January, which has upset most if not all of the residents in the village and surrounding area, especially the relatives affected. It is our hope that by the time this issue is distributed the culprits will have been caught and severely punished for this most mindless and cruel attack on the graves of people we have known, loved and respected.

Out of all this has come the immediate response from the village. The council set a £100 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the culprits. This led to other offers being added to the reward, namely £200 from Mr John Astill, £300 from the Sileby District Liberal and Working Mens Club, and a further £300 from Mr and Mrs Miller at the White Swan in Swan Street. A further £200 has been added up to January 30th, making a total of over £1000. Also the Neighbourhood Watch both in Sileby and Cossington have assisted greatly since the attack - we are most grateful to them.

A special reminder to everyone, if you see or suspect that trouble is likely to start within the village, be it attacks, vandalism, break-ins, car thefts or damage, phone the police immediately, or contact your Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinator.

The police number is Loughborough 231111 and the confidential crime line number is 0116 2484042. If the situation is very urgent do not hesitate to dial 999.

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ANNUAL FRONT GARDEN COMPETITION

Yes, it is coming round again. After last year's most successful event, the council are trying to attract sponsorship again for this year. If you would like to enter, please fill in the entry form in this issue of the "Stockade" and send or deliver it to the Parish Council offices not later than 30th June 1995.

Judging will take place between July 24th and August 5th 1995.

ENTRY FORM

Sileby Parish Council "BEST FRONT GARDEN COMPETITION" 1995

Name

Address

This entry form should be sent to the Clerk to the Council, 41 High Street, Sileby, LE12 7RX - not later than 30th June 1995.

SILEBY WANDERERS FOOTBALL CLUB 1933 - 1934



LEFT TO RIGHT

BACK ROW: Tommy Dakin, Ted Parkinson, Ron Walters, Bernard Foster, Bill Brown, Eric Dickens (Trainer), Ted Talbott (Manager)

MIDDLE ROW: Dennis Bee, Ernie Gretton, Maurice Barber

FRONT ROW: Harry Bollard, Fig Smith, Tom Brown, Norman Allen, Walter Smith.

The photo was taken on the vicarage lawn, by kind permission of Rev. F. L. Burrow.

The Wanderers had topped Division 6 of the Leicester Realm League. The last match of the season was away at Leicester. The Leicester team had to win to go top, the Wanderers had to make a draw to go top. The referee didn't turn up, the Leicester lads had their own referee and linesmen. After a real hard match it ended in a 2-all draw.

To celebrate the event, Mrs "Luttie" Parkinson put a "Do" on for us at the Pochin Hall. The Vicar was invited - he was a good friend to the team. He told us in church the next Sunday that he had asked one of the lads what the table napkins were for, and the lad told him it was to wrap up the food you couldn't eat and take it home.

Most of the team used to go to church on Sunday evenings - if it was a nice night we used to walk to Seagrave. I'm afraid the pub we went to is closed now. Happy Days.

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PROPOSED EXPEDITION TO INDONESIA

I am a resident in Sileby where I have lived all my life, having attended Redlands County Primary School, Humphrey Perkins and Rawlins Community College. In the past I have participated in village activities such as the Brownies and the Guides, then continued my sporting interests by representing the County at netball for four years. I am at present an undergraduate at Loughborough University studying for a BSc in Physical Education and Sports Science. I have been lucky enough to be selected to participate in a major scientific expedition to Indonesia leaving England in August 1995.

The expedition is being organised by Trekkforce Expeditions through the charity International Scientific Support Trust (ISST). The projects organised by the ISST aim to advance research into the rainforests of Indonesia, promote their regeneration and ensure they are managed wisely. All projects are run with the approval and co-operation of the Indonesian Government's Department of the Environment, Ministry of Forests, and Institute of Science.

The August Expedition will travel to Kalimantan, and be based at Camp Leakey in the Tanjung Puting National Park. The main function of Camp Leakey is the rehabilitation of orphan orang-utans taken from the jungle by poachers, and the expedition aims to provide the logistic back-up needed by the scientists to improve the infrastructure of the park and assist the ongoing orang-utan programme.

Over the next few months, I am seeking to raise £3,000 in order to finance and equip my part in the expedition. I have been fund raising by:-

- Taking on a temporary job with the Royal Mail
- Organising a raffle with prizes donated by local firms
- Buying and selling confectionery

I would be extremely grateful for any support in this venture, however small - every little helps. Any donation through sponsorship will be gratefully received, however, if you do not feel this is possible then maybe you could provide an item for a raffle prize, or any second-hand books which I can resell. I hope you will agree that this is a worthwhile cause and that I can rely on your support in forthcoming fund raising events.

If you are willing to help in any way then please contact me at my home address - 35 Seagrave Road, Sileby - telephone 813005.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Lucy Laurance

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SILEBY CHARITIES WHIST CLUB

Once again we have been able to give a donation to the two village surgeries, this being £165 to each, for which we thank everyone who helped us in any way.

New venue - for our Thursday fortnightly Whist Drives is the Evergreen Club at the Village Institute in Manor Drive off Cossington Road. Our big drives are on March 11th and November 18th at 2.30 pm at the Evergreen Club. Everyone is most welcome. Any queries contact Mrs Knowles or Mrs Hunt.

WHIST DRIVES

Held at Dudley Court - entrance off Back Lane, Sileby - all welcome - starting at 2.30 pm. Admission £1.00 - including Refreshments and Raffle.

Dates for 1995 are as follows:-

March 18th
April 15th
May 20th
September 16th
October 21st
November 11th
December 16th

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SILEBY TOWNSWOMEN'S GUILD

The Townswomen's Guild meetings are held on the second Friday of every month at the Community Centre at 7.30p.m. All ladies will be made most welcome - so why not come along and see if you like us and what we do.

Please note the following dates for your diary:-

Friday 10th March - Dr J Parker will be giving an illustrated talk on the work of the Flying Doctor Service of Australia.

Friday 14th April - Mrs R Millington from Quorn will be demonstrating her skills at painting fabrics for cards and pictures.

Friday 20th May - Mrs M Hammond will be telling us how to "Grow Old Disgracefully".

Friday 9th June - Mr A Dix will be talking about "Magic through the ages" and will also demonstrate his magic tricks.

SILEBY CEMETERY

Let's hope that by the time this edition of the Stockade hits the streets the mindless idiots who did so much damage to the cemetery will have been caught. But the deadline for copy is January 31st and as I write this, January 29th, the village is still shell-shocked by such wanton vandalism.

My memories of the cemetery go back to early childhood, when I would be taken to visit my grandparents' grave. The graves in those days nestled between evergreen bushes, and flowers seemed to be everywhere. Maybe we only visited in the summer and that's why it looked so lovely but in the eyes of a child it looked for all the world like 'the enchanted garden'.

Regular visits for me didn't start until 1981. My mother died that year. By then the bushes had gone. I suppose they were taken away to make cutting the grass easier. It looked so different, yet still retained a strange tranquillity. I don't think I ever visited and was totally alone. There was always someone else there visiting a loved one. Lost in our own thoughts we would exchange a nod in passing, but no-one ever seemed to speak, it was as if to talk would have destroyed the poignancy of the moment.

I remember 1981 it was the summer and I sat, my six week old baby in my arms, by the side of my mother's grave. Initially oblivious to anyone else's presence in the cemetery, I became aware of a woman not six feet away from me. She had come to tend her baby's grave, a victim of cot death. As desolate as I felt that day I was grieving as a daughter, she as a mother, and as I gazed into my young son's face I knew instinctively that her grief was so much worse than mine. I wanted to go over and comfort her but feared that the presence of my own child would have distressed her even more, so I placed him back into his pram and walked away.

I never did see her again but I stopped at the grave often. It was tended with love, always fresh flowers, even plants, and in the springtime took on the appearance of a beautiful quilt.

When I heard about the damage to the cemetery I rushed round, like dozens of other people to see if my own family's graves had been damaged. People who had only ever had a nodding acquaintance with each other stood huddled in groups in the rain, shocked, upset and angry. I checked my own family and went over to the baby's grave. It was still intact. A woman I know only by sight came up to me and gave a sigh of relief. "My Dad's grave's alright, thank God" she whispered "but I just had to come and check this one". We looked at each other. "Yes, I know" I said, "So did I".

Carol-Anne Freeman

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SILEBY PHOBIC SELF-HELP AND SUPPORT GROUP

A reminder that sufferers from agoraphobia, panic attacks, anxiety etc get together every other Monday between 2 and 3 pm at the Community Centre House. Evening meetings which were held once a month are postponed for a short time, we will inform you when these re-start. Contact lines are available most of the time.

Did you make that New Year Resolution to get in touch with us? If so, why not carry it through, we may be able to help YOU take those steps to recovery. Be POSITIVE and make a start, especially through these dreary months, hopefully to achieve that glimmer of the sun waiting to shine through the summertime, to enjoy the benefits of your determination.

How many times have you said "Shall I? - I can't - why has this happened? - I don't want others to know - I've tried times to pick up the phone but I can't - I wish I had someone to talk to who really understands - I don't want to make a fool of myself", adding more pressure to your problem, be it recent or long standing?

We cannot offer you a miracle cure - there isn't one - but we can listen, share experiences, give information and support for self-help, which can work for you too, and of course, confidentiality.

Take that long awaited first step, call in at a meeting, phone, write a letter if you prefer, but DON'T HOLD BACK. YOU DO MATTER.

Have you recovered from these problems? Perhaps you would like to offer your knowledge and help others. We want to hear from you.

Have you contacted us before over the past year or so but did not get back to us. We would like to hear from you. Did we help? Your comments please.

Our CONTACT NUMBERS are 01509 813129 and 01509 413802, or get in touch with Caroline Harding at the Community Centre House.

Meetings are held every alternate Monday from 2 to 3 pm - the next few dates are March 6th, March 20th, April 3, April 17th, May 1st and May 15th. Meetings are not held when they fall on a Bank Holiday date.

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MRS DERRY'S MEMORIES

Mrs Derry is 85 years old and she moved to Sileby in 1916 at the age of 7. These are some of her memories of Sileby.

"When I came to Sileby there were 21 streets and two schools, one on Barrow Road and one on King Street. The one on Barrow Road was a church school and the one on King Street was a council school. I went to the one on King Street - it was, and still is, called Redlands. It was founded by Thomas Caloe who also built the Community Centre and the Methodist Church. It was called Redlands because the land that it was built on was called Redlands. There were 30 or 40 pupils in each class and the classes weren't in age groups. You were put into a class according to how clever you were!"

"In the playground we used to play with buttons or beads and we used to throw them up at the wall to see how high we could throw them. Then we had to collect as many as we could. We also used to thread string through boot buttons and then we threw them up in the air and tried to catch them on the back of our hands. If we dropped them our opponent would have them! Once my friend and I went into the Newbold and Burton shoe factory, which was where the scout hut now is. It was the biggest factory at the time. We collected the boot buttons that were on the floor so we had lots to throw at school and that is the only crime I ever committed!"

I asked her about discipline:- "Well, every teacher had a cane and I was caned twice! The boys always thought it to be an honour to be caned! You were mostly caned for talking in class and we had to hold out our hand and depending on how bad we'd been we'd have a certain number of strokes."

I asked her about what she wrote on:- "We used to write on paper and we used pencils. When we became 7 years old we were allowed to use a pen. Once, I dipped my pen in the ink and knocked it over! It went all over my clothes and my teacher brought me up in front of the class."

I asked her when she left school:- "I left Redlands at the age of 14 and started work. My parents died when I was 16, they were in their late 40's and that was young to die. My mother had heart trouble. I worked at Newbold and Burton and I was a machinist. They were new machines and I was lucky to get that job because there were people that worked there that were more experienced, but I think the boss felt sorry for me because my parents had died. The machines were at first powered by gas, then they were powered by electricity. Electricity first came to factories in 1924 but didn't come to Charles Street (where she lived) until later on."

I asked her about her house:- "We had gas before electricity came and to light our house we had a paraffin lamp. In some houses there were taps but on Charles Street there wasn't any mains water so we had a pump in our back garden and shared this with our neighbour."

I asked her about toilets:- "We had pan lavatories in the garden. In the night, the council went around in a horse and cart emptying the toilets and they also put a bit of disinfectant in the toilets. Then they disposed of it on the edges of Slash Lane!"

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I asked her about her family:- "There were 7 in my family including my mother and father. This was quite a small family compared to other people's families. My brothers and sisters were called Iris, Elsie, Syril and May. I always thought that it was unfair that the bigger the families were, the smaller their houses were because they couldn't afford a very big house, so really, we were very lucky. In 1930 the first council houses were built in Sileby and a family with 11 children was the first family to use them."

She told me more about the houses:- "We had no bathrooms in our houses because toilets inside were considered unhygienic. Our bath was hung on a wall in the kitchen. The fireplaces were black and on one side there was a boiler and on the other was the water that we had got from the pump. We would heat up the water and put it in the bath in front of the fire. All 5 of us shared the water because we couldn't waste it. We did have sinks but there were no taps by them."

I asked her about entertainment:- "There was once a building on the corner on Radcliffe Road and it showed silent movies but it had a corrugated iron roof so when it rained, the noise was terrible! The man who built this was so successful that he built another cinema on Swan Street. The building is now the chemists! Behind the screen two people played an instrument, one played the violin and the other the piano so there was music while you watched!"

I asked her about shops:- "There was a "Co-op" on the corner of King Street and Swan Street which is now the "Starlite Video" and there was "Hills Groceries" on the corner of King Street and High Street. There was also "Morris's" on Brook Street that sold saddles for horses. Then later on he converted it to a clothes and shoe shop. One of his younger relatives runs it now."

I asked her about floods:- "When there were bad floods Brook Street was impassable, it often went into Morris's shop. It also went up part of High Street and a bit along Cossington Road! Once, a boy drowned in the brook when the waters were running high."

I asked her if there were any major disasters:- "In 1909 before I moved here there were 2 policemen. One of them was really nice and everyone liked him. But the other one was a young man and because there wasn't enough crime he used to pick on the youths and try and get them to do something bad because they were cross. He also picked on them because he didn't have much to do. So two of the youths decided to do something about it. They hid behind some gravestones in St Mary's churchyard. They could see the policemen coming up High Street. When he came in firing range they shot, but to their horror they got the wrong one! The two youths came from respectable families but when they were caught they blamed each other. The police really just wanted the one who had fired the shot but because they didn't admit to it they were both hung in Leicester prison!"



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I asked her about where they played outside school:- "We played in the fields in the summer because there was no danger whatsoever. There wasn't a risk about going out on our own. We all had access to fields. There were lots and lots - from Charles Street to Barrow-on-Soar it was field, no roads and no buildings. But now, they are all built on. In the winter we all played on the roads under the lamp posts because horse and carts go so slowly that you could easily move out of the way before they came near us! We used to play with a big skipping rope made out of a washing line. Two people would spin the rope and all the others would jump in. If you trod on the rope you would have to spin it and the person who was spinning it before would jump in the middle."

I asked about the World Wars and how they affected Sileby:- "When there were rationing it was very hard and if there was a tiny bit of margarine or another rich food in a shop there would be queues and queues for a bit of it. There were lots of men from Sileby killed in the wars."

She told me about the milkman:- "The milkman came round the streets and when he came outside our house we used to take a jug out to him and he poured the milk in. But as there was lots and lots of dust around the streets he always added a drop extra because dusty milk isn't very healthy to drink!"

I asked her about illness:- "Well, after World War I there was an epidemic of flu, but I thought it was so bad that I called it a plague. More people were killed by it than by the war. There were 7 in my family and 5 of us got it. Even the baby! But we all survived thank goodness!"

"Lots of teenagers and older children got TB and a lot of them died from it. I didn't get it but my best friend died of it. I think it was because of all the dust. There was so much of it, even more than in Leicester where I used to live. Of course, there were no TB injections then."

I asked her why the station closed down:- "Well, it was the main transport to towns and villages and lots and lots of people used it. But in 1968 a man called Dr Beeching closed it down because he said that it needed modernising but they couldn't afford to spend the money on it and it was easiest just to close it down."

She told me about transport:- "We didn't used to get buses. But when we did, they were awful! They were so slow and hopeless that they couldn't get up the hills from Syston. But strange enough they could get to Leicester quite easily even though it is a bit of a climb if you want to go there!"

"I can remember the first three cars in Sileby in 1919. They were owned by the owner of the Brick Works, Mr Wright, one of the class teachers at Redlands, Miss Chamberlain, and the village doctor, Dr Gray."

I asked her about industry:- "The main industry was shoe factories - there were lots of them. There were a few hosiery factories too. At the top of Albion Road there was a brickworks and that was quite big."

Editor's note:-

This article was written by Frances Whyman as part of her school project and it was so interesting that we asked if we could reproduce it in The Stockade.

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SILEBY CHILDMINDERS

This recently formed group will be holding monthly meetings. Daytime meetings will be open to all childminders. Each meeting will have a specific topic of some relevance to childminders e.g. contracts, safety in the home etc, as well as time to chat informally. They will also give the children an opportunity to play together.

There will also be evening meetings with speakers on subjects with an appeal beyond childminding and these will be open to anyone interested in the talk. Our first meeting will be held on Wednesday 22nd March between 1 pm - 3 pm when we will discuss and decide on the subjects for future meetings. The first 2 evening meetings will be held in the community centre 7.30 - 9.30 approx. to deal with Self Defence for Women (the first will be theoretical and the second will involve the "moves").

A small steering committee has been formed to see us through the first few months, but not to dictate the direction of the group. Hopefully as more minders come to the meetings more ideas will come forward.

Further details can be obtained from Vi Radley on Sileby 813082.

Dates for your Diary:-

22nd March	Group development	99 Cossington Road	50p
11th April	Self defence (part 1)	Community Centre	£1.00
9th May	Self defence (part 2)	Community Centre	£1.00

NEWS FROM "THE FRIENDS OF REDLANDS"

The 3rd Annual Fun Day will take place on the school playing fields from 2 o'clock on **Saturday 24th June**. This event will be held in conjunction with The Sileby St. John Ambulance Brigade.

There will be three races:-

- 1) A 9 mile road race
- 2) A 4 mile road race and
- 3) A Family Fun Run of about 2 miles on the school playing fields.

Lots of attractions have been booked already and include a Bouncy Castle, Bungee Running, Grease Pole, Ball Pit and a car boot sale to name a few. Hot and cold refreshments will also be available.

All proceeds will go to The Friends of Redlands for the benefit of the children and to The St. John Ambulance Brigade. For further details contact Peter on Sileby 813861 or Malcolm on Sileby 813601.

Further dates

Thursday 16 March Quiz Evening - starts at 8 pm in the School Hall. The entry fee is £5 for each team of four. There will be no individual questions. To enter, contact Lorraine on Sileby 812946.

Sunday 14 May Walking Treasure Hunt - the village will be divided into five sectors. Entrants must complete the centre of the village and two others. Social get together after the event. Contact Peter on Sileby 813861 for more details.



Sileby Community Health Project

Community Centre House - 41 High Street - Sileby
Leicestershire. ☎(0509) 815288

Important dates and information

- all meetings held at Sileby Community Centre House.

PHYSICAL ACTIVITY SCHEME

A new **Physical Activity Class for the Over 55's** has started on Tuesday mornings between 11.30 & 12.00. This entails an introduction to gentle movement and armchair exercises. If you are interested or you know anyone who may be please call the number above.



An open meeting took place on February 8th at the Community Centre. Representatives from Loughborough University, the Community Health Project and an exercise tutor spoke to those who attended about any fears they had about physical activity. The response was excellent and the meeting proved very beneficial to everyone. Two new directories are available from Community Centre House. The first has put together all the Physical Activity groups in Sileby into a booklet. The second shows twelve short and long walks in and around Sileby including distances and a map. The project is forming groups to go walking together. If you are interested please contact us.

THE LUNCH CLUB - for the older residents in Sileby - meets every Tuesday (except bank Holidays) and now also on a Friday from 12.30 pm until 3 pm. There are currently 24 on the books with around 12 regulars on each day. If you fancy a nice meal prepared for you for a small price once or twice a week then please ring Caroline on Sileby 815288.

CARERS' SUPPORT GROUP - an open meeting took place on 30th January. The response was very encouraging, not only from carers, but also from local organisations who have been very willing to support this group. It has been decided to form a committee to run the group. **FREE** information and support can be provided for people who care for someone else whether it be a friend, relative or neighbour. Please contact us - the group would be delighted to hear from you .

LEICESTER OUTWORK CAMPAIGN - meetings from 10 am to 12 noon, will be held on the following Tuesdays:- 21st March, 25th April, 16th May.

LOUGHBOROUGH VOLUNTEER BUREAU - is currently looking for people who are interested in helping out or befriending Carers simply to give them a break every once in a while. Meetings are being held on the following Tuesdays:- 14th March, 4th April, 9th May.

HOW ARE YOU FEELING? Do you need someone to talk to? Are you suffering from post-natal illness or feeling isolated and cut off with small children. If you would like to talk your problem over please phone Liz on Sileby 814429 or Caroline on Sileby 815288.

LIFEBEAT HEALTH EXHIBITION - will be held at the Sileby Village Institute on Saturday 17th June. Open to the public.

NEW EVENT - introduction to Folk/Barn Dancing 7.30 - 9.30 pm on Monday 13th March at the Community Centre.

MEANDERINGS OF A VILLAGE RESIDENT

Some things never seem to change - the floods were up when I first visited Sileby over 10 years ago before applying for a job in the village, and they're up again as I write this. Is it my imagination, or are the floods worse now, since the building of the by-pass? Or is it just that they managed to create more places than before for the water to collect when they built it? The fact that the completely new link road to Mountsorrel Quarry near Betty Henser Lane floods so easily confirms that someone undoubtedly got their sums wrong.

Not that I've got anything against the by-pass, I think it has really made life a lot easier. I don't know why, but I just never really believed that it would ever get built somehow. It seemed ages previously that there had been all the palaver about red, green and blue routes, or whatever colour they were. Mind you, it was about three months before I realised that the works going on at the junction of Wanlip Lane and the A6 near Birstall were for a major new road, so that just shows how out of touch I am. Again, that road will undoubtedly make life a lot easier, but I hear that there are plans afoot to widen the M1 to four lanes between the junction with this new road and junction 21. So we'll be able to go cruising nicely round the north-west of Leicester with minimal inconvenience only to be held up again on the M1!

There's always something isn't there? I noticed in Barrow Voice an article about the flood prevention works on the River Soar between Barrow Deep Lock and Pillings Flood Lock. I haven't yet been able to work out quite what is going on there, apart from the building of new sluice gates, but the article seemed pretty confident that overall the works will have a beneficial effect in that area. Presumably they will do nothing for Sileby's flooding problems, except perhaps preventing the Barrow-Quorn road from flooding and so giving us an extra crossing point. What I do know, and feel quite sad about, is that the short stretch of the river just north of the road bridge and the Riverside pub used to be extremely pretty, but the works have necessitated the felling of the lovely, if rather ancient, willow trees on the bank. I suppose it can't be helped, but it really was my favourite spot on the river when cruising in that direction.

I notice that the Alliance and Leicester agency in Barrow High Street have upgraded their facilities since our branch closed. I was so annoyed when they did that - I was tempted to move to another building society, but the number of branches of A & L makes it much more convenient to stay with them for day-to-day deposits and withdrawals. I nearly moved my bank account in protest when Barclays closed, but it is such a hassle altering all the standing orders and direct debits, and my experience is that it is never a smooth operation. I noticed that at the time the TSB closed the Nat West was trying to cash in on it, but what's to stop them closing 6 months later if I moved my account over to them? We all know the danger signs now - the moment they spend several thousand pounds upgrading their premises we'll know that they'll close down within a year!

One thing I did discover when looking at other building societies was that you can get much better rates for your savings elsewhere. For example, the Skipton, Britannia and Bradford & Bingley Building Societies all offer instant access or 30-day notice accounts with gross rates of over 6%, which is about half as much as again as the A & L!

One useful tip I was given that I hadn't twigged on to before was that as my wife does not pay tax (and as I trust her not to run away with the money) it made a lot of sense to open one of these higher rate accounts in her name rather than mine to get the benefit of the gross interest rate. So some good has come out of the Alliance & Leicester closing their branch after all - I'm now earning much more interest on my "emergency fund" savings than before!

Well, when I started writing this I was going to record my impressions as a newcomer to the village about 10 years ago. However, like the River Soar, I seem to have meandered somewhat! Perhaps I shall try again for the next edition of Stockade.

ACROSS

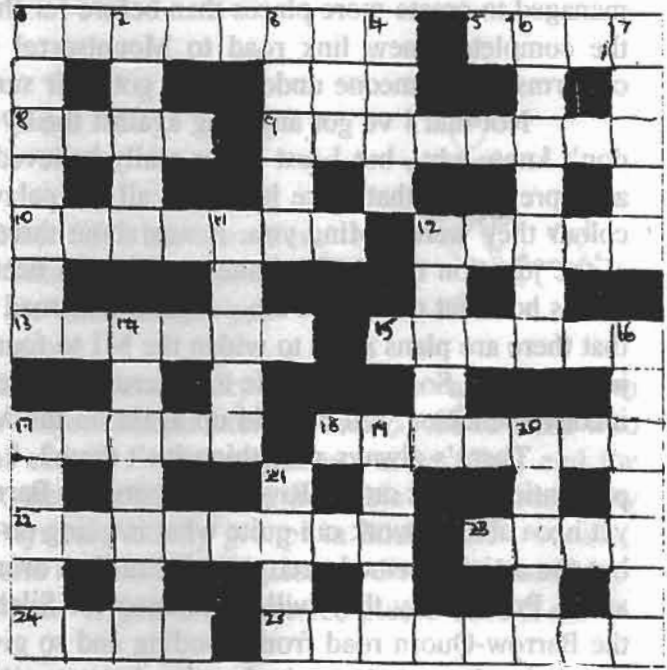
- 1) You have a party for this (8)
- 5) Youth ---(4)
- 8) Take the dog for a walk (4)
- 9) Looked at closely (8)
- 10) Opposite of inside (7)
- 12) Look over ----(5)
- 13) They looked after you in hospital (6)
- 15) Saved your sock (6)
- 17) You can stay in one on holiday (5)
- 18) Blow these out (7)
- 22) You get these on your birthday (8)
- 23) you bake this for a birthday or Xmas (4)
- 24) Abominal Snowman (4)
- 25) How you catch tiddlers (4-1-3)

DOWN

- 1) Inflate this for a party (7)
- 2) ---- beef and yorkshire pudding (5)
- 3) Fear (5)
- 4) Twelve Months (4)
- 6) Lamp on a pole (7)
- 7) "Broach" for kids (5)
- 11) Perfect (5)
- 12) Railway Engine (5)
- 14) Withdraw from (7)
- 16) Another name for pudding (7)
- 17) ---- birthday to you (5)
- 19) Valuable Thing (5)
- 20) Gain knowledge (5)
- 21) It falls from the sky in flakes (4)

CROSSWORD FOR ALL 7 TO 11 YEAR OLDS

Please hand your answers to this prize crossword into Wright's butchers by the 31st March
Compiled by Lynn Van-Zutphen



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IVANHOE LINE

When the Ivanhoe Line opened the main attraction for me was that I thought it would make it a lot easier for me to make day trips to London, using the reasonably priced SuperSaver ticket. In the morning this works very well - the 9.26 service from Sileby arrives in Leicester at 9.39, in good time to catch the 10.00 Intercity to St Pancras (the first service on which you can use a SuperSaver ticket), arriving in London at a very reasonable 11.17. It is even possible to purchase a through ticket on the Ivanhoe Line to destinations on the other side of London, and pay by credit card. This is all very convenient.

In the evening it is a rather different story. The SuperSaver ticket is not valid on trains from St Pancras between 16.00 and 18.50, so if you don't want to leave London as early as 15.30, the next train you can use is the 19.20. This arrives in Leicester at 20.46 and the next, and last, Sileby train is at 22.03, an unacceptable 75 minute wait. Alternatively you can take the 20.00 and arrive in Leicester at 21.21, but there is still a 40 minute wait for the Sileby train.

A relatively small adjustment to the timing of the 20.31 from Leicester to Sileby so that it leaves after the arrival of the train from London at 20.46 would solve the problem, as would removing the SuperSaver restriction on the 18.50 from London. Disappointingly, my letters to both Intercity and Regional Railways on the subject have produced not a single glimmer of interest in encouraging more practical cheap day trips to London using the Ivanhoe Line.

Keith Dunbar

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A "SPOTLIGHT" ON SILEBY

The Sileby Art and Craft Society is preparing to hold its 1995 Annual Exhibition. This is the second year that the Society has hosted exhibitions in Sileby, casting a spotlight on local individuals whose magnificent works might otherwise have remained in the shadows.

The "Spotlight" Exhibition will be held at the Village Institute on Saturday 20th and Sunday 21st May from 10 am until 4 pm.

The show will provide an opportunity for talented people to show their work and for visitors to discover the wealth of talent in their midst, and perhaps even to try their hand at some of the fascinating skills that we are privileged enough to have around us.

Drawing on the experiences of last year, this year's "Spotlight" Exhibition promises an equally prestigious gathering of artists and crafts people offering a range of paintings, drawings, embroidery, cross stitch, ceramics, papier mache, textiles, fashion, design and wood turning. In addition, we hope this year to have a demonstration of the art of wool spinning.

So if you would like to reserve a space to show your work and gain superstar status overnight, or, if you would like to know more about the society and the workshops offered, then contact:-

Terri Bradshaw on Sileby 816932 or Viv Seymour on Sileby 814671

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BLIND AND DISABLED SWIMMING CHAMPIONSHIPS

It was the World Blind and Disabled Swimming Championships in Malta on November 3rd - 8th. Leanne Edmans was picked to go and came home with 2 gold medals, also 2 British and 2 European records. Great Britain came top with 31 gold, 11 silver, 21 bronze medals, beating 45 other nations. British Telecom welcomed them all home with a party at the Ramada Hotel, Heathrow. It was a proud moment when they all came in with their track suits of half Union Jack and half Navy Blue.

E R Edmans

SILEBY TOWN CRICKET CLUB - 100 NOT OUT

This season Sileby Town Cricket Club celebrates 100 years of League cricket. While there is evidence of cricket being played in Sileby as early as 1813, they commenced playing League cricket in 1895.

Sileby Town have had a very successful history, having won every competition entered at the first attempt. Last season the 1st X1 finished in a respectable mid-table position in their Division, and the 2nd X1 narrowly missed out on promotion coming third in their Division.

Sileby Town currently have the best Junior Section in the County, with 85 junior members playing at various levels from Kwik cricket up to under 17, with a number of these Juniors having represented the County at various age groups.

Sileby Town Cricket Club are building a new pavilion for the 1996 season, and are hoping to organise a match against a County X1 this summer as part of the 100th anniversary celebrations. Look out for further information.

The club are trying to produce a brochure to commemorate their centenary, and we are looking for any stories and/or photographs to include in this. If you can help with stories or photographs please don't hesitate to contact the club via Richard James who can be contacted on Sileby 812169

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SENIOR CRICKET

Saturday - 2 teams

Sunday - 2 teams

Thursday evening - 1 team

Experienced senior players required - contact Nigel Kinch on Leicester (0116) 2374644.

JUNIOR SECTION

Under 17 - 1 team

Under 15 - 1 team

Under 13 - 2 teams (11 a side & 8 a side)

Under 11 - 2 teams (Kwik Cricket)

Junior players of all ages required - contact Jeff Shepherd on Loughborough (01509) 413040.

Teaching available for all levels by 5 qualified coaches.

SEASONAL ROUNDBOUT - Thank you to everyone who entered the last edition's quiz. Here are the answers:-

- | | | | | | |
|----|-----------------|----|--------------------|----|-----------------|
| 1 | TINSEL STOCKING | 13 | CHOCOLATE MONEY | 25 | CHRISTMAS |
| 2 | MINCE PIES | 14 | CAROLS | 26 | WASSAIL |
| 3 | TURKEY | 15 | SNOWMAN | 27 | TWELFTH NIGHT |
| 4 | NATIVITY | 16 | SANTA CLAUS | 28 | PAPER HATS |
| 5 | DECORATIONS | 17 | CHRISTMAS CAKE | 29 | CRACKERS |
| 6 | MANGER | 18 | TANGERINE | 30 | CHRISTMAS TREE |
| 7 | BOXING DAY | 19 | BETHLEHEM | 31 | MIDNIGHT MASS |
| 8 | PRESENTS | 20 | CHRISTMAS CARDS | 32 | QUEEN'S SPEECH |
| 9 | MISTLETOE | 21 | STUFFING | 33 | FAIRY |
| 10 | REINDEER | 22 | PLUM PUDDING | 34 | PANTOMIME |
| 11 | MULLED WINE | 23 | JINGLE BELLS | 35 | JAMES BOND FILM |
| 12 | ROBIN | 24 | CHRISTMAS STOCKING | 36 | BRUSSEL SPROUTS |

LEICESTERSHIRE QUIZ

- | | | | |
|--------------------|--------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. COALVILLE | 11. SHELTHORPE | 21. NEWBOLD VERDON | 31. DE MONTFORT HALL |
| 2. MOUNTSORREL | 12. BRUNTINGTHORPE | 22. HUMBERSTONE | 32. THURCASTON |
| 3. CROPSTON | 13. WANLIP | 23. KNIGHTON | 33. BIRSTALL |
| 4. OLD DALBY | 14. COPT OAK | 24. RIVER SOAR | 34. SOUTH WIGSTON |
| 5. MARKET BOSWORTH | 15. BURTON OVERY | 25. BURTON LAZARS | 35. ELLISTON |
| 6. THURMASTON | 16. ABBEY PARK | 26. WHISSENDINE | 36. RAGDALE |
| 7. BRADGATE PARK | 17. COSSINGTON | 27. BARLESTONE | 37. KIRBY BELLARS |
| 8. SAPCOTE | 18. NEWTON LINFORD | 28. BARROW UPON SOAR | 38. EARL SHILTON |
| 9. MALLORY PARK | 19. THURLASTON | 29. BEACON HILL | 39. GRIMSTON |
| 10. SILEBY | 20. SEAGRAVE | 30. EAST GOSCOTE | 40. SWITHLAND RESERVOIR |

The winners with all answers correct were:-

Averill Tyrell
D.P. Pinkney
Mrs. R. Faulconbridge

STOCKADE QUIZ- NUMBER 16

This issue we are playing with words again. All of the answers begin and end with the same two letters e.g. Most Odd = STRangeST. Please hand your answers in a Wrights Butchers, High Street by 31st March. The three winners will receive £5.

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. speaker = <u>at</u> | 12. last king = <u>or</u> | 23. bashful = <u>eept</u> |
| 2. common = <u>n</u> | 13. lady = <u>nelo</u> | 24. ordinal = <u>irtie</u> |
| 3. rubber = <u>as</u> | 14. capital = <u>sterd</u> | 25. symbol = <u>bl</u> |
| 4. up and down = <u> </u> | 15. now extinct = <u> </u> | 26. timer = <u>trono</u> |
| 5. mixture = <u>alg</u> | 16. fruit or veg. = <u>ma</u> | 27. token = <u>epsa</u> |
| 6. taught = <u>ucat</u> | 17. jig = <u>inpla</u> | 28. excuse = <u>adac</u> |
| 7. leave = <u>ti</u> | 18. gets away = <u>re</u> | 29. fence = <u> </u> |
| 8. resolve = <u>ci</u> | 19. behind = <u>re</u> | 30. cheerio = <u> </u> |
| 9. vegetable = <u>i</u> | 20. clear = <u>gib</u> | 31. mussel = <u>ellfi</u> |
| 10. Beach/vic = <u>a</u> | 21. God's House = <u>ur</u> | 32. need = <u>qui</u> |
| 11. river = <u> </u> | 22. enthusiasm = <u>r</u> | |

VILLAGE CHURCH NEWS

CHURCH OF ENGLAND

NEW TEAM RECTOR - on 3rd April 1995 the new Team Rector of the United Parishes of Sileby, Cossington and Seagrave, the Reverend Alan Costerton, will be inducted and given authority from the Bishop of Leicester for his ministry here. The service will be in St Mary's and the Bishop, Archdeacon and Rural Dean will be present along with many others.

Alan has sent a note for the readers of the Stockade:-

One of the moves that Vivienne and I have made in our ministry was from Peckham in South East London to West Ham in East London. In those days crossing the Thames was a big step and people in Peckham and West Ham would feel that a move in either direction was going into foreign (and dangerous) parts! As for crossing the A6 ...!) In fact, when ministers move they have the real advantage of joining the Lord's family already working there. We enjoyed that welcome in East London and in Thornton, Bagworth and Stanton in 1979. We have already had a lovely welcome from the church-wardens in Sileby, Cossington and Seagrave and look forward to getting to know you all. We have three student age 'children' and a Westie named Canna!

EASTER SERVICES

During Holy Week there will be 15 minute meditations when there are no other services - all meditations at Cossington, starting at 7.30 pm.

Mon 10th April	Jesus in conflict	EASTER DAY
Tue 11th April	Jesus in preparation	ST. MARY'S SILEBY
Wed 12th April	Jesus with the betrayer	8.00am Early Easter Communion
Thurs 13th April	7.30pm The last supper, Cossington	10.30am Easter Communion
Good Friday	10.30am Family Service St Mary's	6.30pm Easter Worship
	11.30am March of Witness from Baptists	
	12.30pm Hunger Lunch at St. Gregory's	ALL SAINTS COSSINGTON
	7.30pm Hour at the Cross in Seagrave	10.30am Easter Communion
Sat 15th April	Jesus "Descended into Hell"	6.30pm Easter Worship
		ALL SAINTS SEAGRAVE
		10.30am Easter Communion
		6.30pm Easter Worship

ST GREGORY & ST ALBAN, EASTER SERVICES - APRIL 1995

Thurs 13th	Mass of the Lords Supper	7.30 pm
Friday 14th	Stations of the Cross	3.00 pm
	Passion Reading and	
	Veneration of the Cross	7.30 pm
Sat 15th	Easter Vigil	7.30 pm

EVANGELICAL BAPTIST CHURCH, EASTER SERVICES

Easter Day	Easter Morning Celebrations	10.30 am
	Video (Title to be announced)	
	followed by Family Tea	3.30 pm

FRIENDS OF HIGHGATE SURGERY

Prize for the Annual Practice Report

Congratulations to Dr Lakhani for receiving a prize from Leicestershire FHSA for the second best practice Annual Practice Report.

Feedback

Please write in complete confidence to Myra Evans (Practice Manager) at the Practice with your letters of comments / suggestions / complaints or praise. Thank you for your co-operation.

Open Day

The amount of interest shown by patients and friends on the "Open Day" in December was very rewarding to Dr Lakhani, his family and staff.

Coffee, tea and mince pies were readily available and a raffle was held with donated prizes. Along with excellent donations £147.60p was raised to add to existing funds.

There was a special display of the work of the Health Visitor by Mrs Patricia Pointon, and the new equipment bought by your contributions to the "Friends Group" was shown in working use by Nurse Jean Devlin.

Friends' Group

More new equipment has now been purchased, the latest being a minor surgery kit of cautery equipment and a pharmacy refrigerator which has just been delivered. Our next aim is for some baby scales.

We gratefully acknowledge a welcome contribution of £165 to add to our funds from the Sibley Charities Whist Club and thank organisers Winnie Hunt and Hilda Knowles.

Skittles Evening

A skittles evening will be organised for the 7th March with food and raffle. The evening will take place at the Conservative Club at 8 pm and tickets will be £2.50. Anyone wishing to attend please contact Kay Machin 812415.

Spring Fayre

A date for your diaries - 8th April. The Fayre will be held in the Community Centre from 10 am till 12 noon, and everyone is welcome. As always we will be very grateful of any help from patients and items will be needed for the numerous stalls.

Please donate to staff at the Surgery or telephone 812480 if you require assistance in transporting any items.

Hazel M Frazer and Barbara Wickstead (Joint Secretaries)

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NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH



Within days of the appeal in the Stockade for a Co-ordinator for Homefield Road the street was up and running again. Many thanks to the gentleman concerned for taking it on.

Since the last Stockade, Milner Close, Flaxland Crescent, Kilbourne Close and part of Charles Street have joined us as one scheme and Cauby Close as another. Welcome!

Soon to join us but waiting for the Police visit is Barrow Road (part). Enquiries in the last 24 hours hopefully will bring in two more schemes, Cossington Road (middle part) and Highgate Road (top).

One of the many advantages of joining Neighbourhood Watch has been the community spirit it brings back to the streets involved. The sheer fact that initially the co-ordinator will go house to house and ask people if they want to join is the first step in meeting your neighbours. If the answer is yes and a scheme does materialise it is the Contact people who keep in touch with individual members, visiting the elderly or vulnerable, keeping an eye on properties whose owners are away, etc etc. Knowing everyone in your street is a nice feeling.

What we didn't expect when we became a Village Watch last Summer was that a similar thing would happen at Area level, but it has. What happened at Sileby Cemetery angered all of us. Not surprisingly the phone lines were red hot with suggestions on how to tackle the problem. Twelve months ago the entire incident would have been put down as "Sileby's problem" and forgotten by our neighbours. Not this time. Sileby Village Watch runs on a shoe string budget, neighbouring village watches know this and within hours they were round to help. Quietly and discretely, with equipment that we can't afford, like two-way radios they were with us. We didn't catch anyone, early days I guess, but we were no longer totally alone, now that is a nice feeling!

In the next few weeks the Home Office will be advertising their new partnership scheme "Partners against Crime" bringing neighbourhood into a kind of triangle of protection. On one side Neighbourhood Watch getting people together to look out for one another. On another side Street Watch which will take 'eyes and ears' into the streets. And the third side Neighbourhood Constables, bringing visible foot patrols into our neighbourhoods.

Anyone wishing to join Neighbourhood Watch please contact Loughborough Police on Loughborough 231111 or write to:

The Area Co-ordinator, c/o The Clerk of the Council, Parish Council Offices, 41 High Street, Sileby LE12 7RX

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Friends of Highgate

Friends of Highgate ended the year on a high note with their Yule-tide Disco. The celebrations began with the Annual Grand Christmas Auction. This was a very successful and fun evening which raised over £350 for school funds by auctioning items such as a tumble dryer, video games, a TV, brand new toys and many things donated by local trades folk. Bidding was often frantic but always fun, our grateful thanks go to all those who made donations and helped to make the evening so enjoyable.

The Romans Invade (again)

The children of Highgate School were treated to the wonderful experience of meeting the Roman Army face to face. Four members of the XIV Legion showed children from Years 3 and 4 what life was like in the army of Ancient Rome. The day culminated in a gladiatorial combat between Marcus and Glaucus. Luckily, the children decided to spare the life of Glaucus. Be warned, it's rumoured that a hoard of Vikings are heading for Highgate!



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APPEAL FOR THE DOMESTIC HERO

This year is the 50th anniversary of VE Day (Victory in Europe). As part of the commemorative effort we are trying to arrange for a display of wartime memorabilia to feature at a special coffee morning at the Old School Restaurant in Sileby.

The coffee morning on Friday 5th May will, it is hoped, be of special interest to local pensioners and the schools, but the display will remain on view from Wednesday 3rd May until Sunday 7th May for lunch and evening meal customers.

For this particular display, as well as the uniform and medals associated with the fighting, we would like if possible to be able to show some of the everyday items which depict life at the domestic front - life ruled by ration books and blackout curtains. How did people improvise on the necessities we take for granted which suddenly were not available? Do you have any magazine articles, recipes, helpful hints from the time?

Just how easy was it to "Keep the Home Fires Burning" with fuel in short supply? If you know then please write down your story. If you have any wartime paraphernalia - photographs, keepsakes etc, then let us know and help us show a bit of appreciation for the Domestic Hero.

If you can help please contact Jackie at The Old School Restaurant on Sileby 813941, or Terri on Sileby 816932.

FINSBURY AVENUE - IN THE PAST

Can you remember this photograph or are you one of those on it?



Before the Highgate Road houses were built Finsbury Avenue was not a through road. It was a very quiet and friendly avenue where all the residents knew each other. There was a hedge at the top of the avenue and it was a very rough track with dips and holes all over the place. There was no through traffic to worry about and the children could play quite safely.

The picture was taken in early to mid 60's when the residents of Finsbury Avenue and some from Ratcliffe Road decided to get together to do some repair work themselves. There was a good deal of hard work done, digging out, mixing and laying concrete etc. Sadly some of those on the photograph are no longer with us, are but still fondly remembered. I will name all those I can remember and apologise for those I cannot - Jesse Breward senior and junior, Reg and Robin Grouse, Reg and Arthur Yates, Bill Coulson, Bill Newton, Tommy Sanders, Tommy Gelder, Wilf Beadsmoore, Ernest Yates, Ken Carr, Jo Needham, Jo Calladine, Bill Bradley, John Powderly and Vic Willcocks.

There were many characters on the Avenue, the Yates family, excellent gardeners of both flowers and vegetables, and others, always with a story to tell. One of our other friends was "Nurse Barbara" as she was fondly known to us. Many Sileby residents will remember her, mainly as her role as local midwife bringing many "Sileby Babies" into the world. We all knew where to go with our ailments. She not only tended the humans but was a great animal lover and would often rear them too and nurse them back to health.

I hope this article will bring back happy memories to some of our readers of times past on Finsbury Avenue and remind them of them when they next pass by.

Lynne Root

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MR BOB SCARBOROUGH

A TRIBUTE FROM SILEBY GALA COMMITTEE

Sileby people were sad to hear of the death of Mr Bob Scarborough of Cossington. Bob was a Sileby man born and bred and only moved to Cossington when he retired from keeping a newsagent's shop. He was a keen cricketer, playing cricket for Sileby Town Cricket Club from when he was 15.

Bob Scarborough worked in insurance and at Lawson Wards shoe factory. He served during the Second World War for six years in the army. He had been President of the Sileby Parade and Gala Committee since its re-formation twenty-five years ago until his death.

The newsagent's he used to run was at the corner of Highgate Road and Swan Street and people still call it Scarborough's Corner.

Bob leaves his wife, Kath, son and daughter-in-law and two grandchildren.

Popsie Gilbert, on behalf of the Sileby Gala Committee

£900 DONATED TO THE RAINBOWS

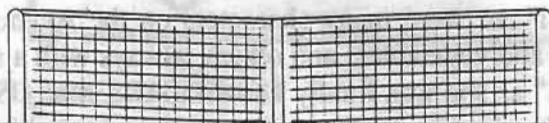


Brenda Muggleton and Audrey Horsley both celebrated their 60th birthdays recently. Instead of gifts they asked friends and relations to donate to the Rainbows Children's Hospice. They would like to thank everyone who contributed to the final sum of £900, which included monies raised by Liz and Roger Wells. The ladies hope to arrange fund raising events for the appeal in the future

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

HUBBLE'S FISH AND CHIP SHOP

Seeing the picture of the Hubble's fish and chip shop on the front of the Winter Stockade reminded me of a very comical war-time incident.

During the last war, life was rather difficult for people who ran fish and chip shops. There was always a shortage of something - fish, potatoes and fat were always in short supply. Even the newspaper to wrap up with was hard to come by. The shops could never open every night of the week as they do now. When they did open there was always a long queue outside.

My brother Rod Jones had stood outside Hubble's for a very long time one cold, wintry night. When he eventually got to the counter he asked old Mrs Hubble for two pennyworth of chips. "Where's your paper" she asked. "I forgot it" he replied. "Well next time bring some or I shall't serve you" she said. He looked at her, looked at his chips and said "Next time I'll bring a ***** matchbox!!!" Enough said.

Maisie Wright (nee Jones)

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Regarding your editorial in the winter edition of The Stockade and your remarks about the railway station and empty shops. Since moving to Sileby, well over a year ago, I have shopped in the centre for quite a lot of our weekly requirements although I do go into Loughborough to get my main provisions. I have found that the shopkeepers in Sileby are pleasant and try to look after your needs. I am of the opinion that "the Sileby Shopkeepers should stand up and be counted".

I have used the local train into Leicester, on a number of occasions, at different times in the morning and the Sprinter train seem to be well supported and they were keeping to the timetable. I have heard comments that people in Sileby are pleased to have a local train service once again.

Within a few yards of the railway station in King Street and High Street there are shops which cater for most household requirements. Sileby Shopkeepers, why not place one advert at the beginning of each month in a Loughborough and Leicester newspaper with every shop (where it is possible) giving a top reduction in six items. Not forgetting to have brightly coloured posters in the windows of the shops taking part (it would be great if every shop joined in the effort).

The local people of Sileby and district would, I am sure, avail themselves of these offers.

J.L. Singleton (Mrs.)



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THE EASINGWOOD FAMILY TREE

We were pleased to hear again from Ivan Easingwood (Holland), who has spent a great deal of time researching his family who originated in this area. Here he gives us a little more insight into their backgrounds:-

Since researching my family tree, I have discovered some interesting information regarding my ancestors who were clergymen in Sileby and Seagrave in the 17th and 18th centuries. They are as follows:-

9 x Great Grandfather - Richard Benskin, baptised 12/5/1605 at St Nicholas Church, Wanlip. He married Margarie Richardson, born c. 1605 at Ratcliffe-on-the-Wreake. They were married on 7/2/1632, church unknown. Richard Benskin was Vicar of St Mary's Church, Humberstone from 1632-35, Rector of St Nicholas Church, Wanlip, from 1636-40, and Vicar of St Mary's Church, Sileby, from 1639-42. He was a Royalist supporter during the Civil War. He escaped capture, during the Parliamentary siege of Shellford House, Nottingham, by taking refuge at Ashby-de-la-Zouch. However he was eventually captured and beheaded by the army of Oliver Cromwell's Roundheads. After the restoration of the Monarchy, his son, John Benskin (1639-1715) was awarded a posthumous free pardon in order to clear the family name. Date of execution - 27/10/1645, grave unknown.

6 x Great Grandfather - Richard Benskin, baptised 7/4/1703 at St Michael and All Angel's Church, Rearsby. He married Ann Day on 10/2/1736 at St Botolph's Church, Shepshed. Ann was baptised in 1709 at St Bartholomew's Church, Quorn. Richard Benskin was Rector of All Saints Church, Seagrave from 1727-67, and Minister of St Andrew's Church, Prestwold, from 1765-67. He died on 21/11/1767 at Seagrave. His tomb is at the right hand side of the altar, complete with Coat of Arms.

FOOTNOTE:- If anyone researching their family history has come across the name of Benskin, or anyone knows of a Benskin family in Leicestershire, I would be very pleased to hear from you.

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SEATED IN A CORONET

In every corner in sweet repose, the mansion had slept midst charming views. Sedate, stately stables with honey coloured walls. A stately clock desists to declare the time of day.

Rising above the trees, midst fertile fields and green, gentle, grassy slopes. A quiet, contrite, country church and yard. Absorb the still, tranquil, brooding quiet.

The north-east corner of the mansion was caressed by butter coloured stars of jasmine which had long since ceased to shine. And along the shores of a lovely, languid lake, in every corner, shadow and shade a shower, a myriad butter coloured daffodils covered, illuminated the vivacious flowery floor.

On delicate breezes fresh scents waft on delicate, sensitive air. Upon such a spring morn sweet Cecily came. Celandine, narcissus, daffodil in great abundant protrusion grew.

Eagerly waiting to be lit, green, immature horse chestnut candles adorn thy lovely outstretched sweeping boughs. Beneath these graceful, beautiful boughs the approach to the extensive mansion is compelled into even greater elegant, stately grandeur. Rich, full of a life-giving force, time sweeps onward, to gaze is to be entranced by a unique kind of beauty.

With flat level parkland in front, extensive broad acres of farming fields seem to extend on a continuous never ending plain without any enclosure or boundary. Tall, deciduous, mature trees cause a curtain shutting out the world, create a picture frame effect.

Placed under the pediment high above the door is an heraldic device, a wyvern seated in a coronet. Foliage and fruit. FIEL PERO DESDICHADO, motto of John Churchill, Knight of the Garter, generously rewarded with a dukedom following his military success in the early years of the War of the Spanish Succession.

Some ancient furniture handed down from generation to generation, occupant to occupant, gave the desired character to the rooms. High in the ceiling, for decoration, are mock coats of arms. The raised hand of the Churchill side of the family is prominent. An indentation signifies the Tille family.

Rich, distinguished lights and shadows of antiquity abound in the atmosphere. The presence that abounds remains in untouched pristine condition. The architectural grandeur characteristic of the outstanding exulted victor in battle. Absolute with the tenacious holding power of a man imprisoned in the Tower of London by King William III, to be released to become an astute Captain General of the army. He lived in obscurity between being released from the Tower and being recalled. He was made Ambassador Extraordinary to the Hague and Commander in Chief to the Allied Forces in Flanders. The moods, reflections are of a man of power, a nobleman. In all he served under five monarchs.

In the forenoon of the same day, to cover the face of the earth, fell a slight gentle, warming April shower. Like a myriad droplets of dew, a shower of daffodils grew to cover the face of the lovely vale.

To walk along the curving and winding of the gravelled paths is to discover charming, constantly changing views of the surrounding countryside. Through green, luxurious, refined, level lawns. High walls of a garden inspiring soothe the thoughts to gaze upon the turnings into even greater seductive power.

Close by the benign yew hedge aslant shafts of light filter trellised plants to an enchanting path beneath a pergola. Endearing, cool, brightness, light and shade, innocent, unsuspecting odours plunge the senses into a feeling of emotion. A lovers' emphatic, moving embrace, a gentle secret kiss, a kiss with such tenderness that only a first and lasting kiss can bestow. He felt her soft breath upon his cheek, and heard the rustle of her silk dress. Her divine, sweet smile was one of deep, passionate joy, touched by happiness, the kind of heartfelt love that is deeply profound and pure, pure as the first fragrant violet.

"Oh Cecily, dearest, sweetest Cecily, because that is what you will always be, no matter what the outcome of this conversation, I do love you. I love you so very much. I will love you forever". And she loves him with the whole of her heart.

Beyond their most inner secret thoughts they were unconscious of the outer world. In woodland solitude, hand in hand under trees elegant, fair and tall, the lovers with their world before them sauntered along sandy shores where wild flowers to the water's edge sip the waters of the glistening, languid lake. Such is the fragrant love breathed forth upon the heart and mind. It is quite inconceivable that anyone could fail to fall in love in a place so romantic, so divine.

To burst out of the secret garden over the edge of the lovely vale is to burst upon a wealth of glinting windows bathed in shafts of adoring spring sunlight. Laid before the mansion is a garden English from every aspect, a garden that flows overflowing with rose briars.

On drowsy, still summer nights the atmosphere is loaded with soothing, sensuous scents that readily affect the senses. The scents from the garden enter the open windows and doors to perfume the rooms already perfumed with flowers placed daily. On warm summer night's air from the musicians' stand, faint whispers of music drift on the fading light.

The structure of the close-knit farm labourers' community is slowly disintegrating. For generations the rural worker had spent the whole of his working life on the same farm and had lived within a modest distance of his relatives. The labourer's children were sent out to service when they were only very young. The farmer's wife usually did the hiring for the house. The bargain was struck over a glass of home-made cowslip or parsnip wine. The amount paid for the year varies in different areas. Servant girls had a terrible, hard time and had to be up early in the morning. The labourers' families were of poor preparation. The farmer's wife was put to enormous frustration to teach them before they reached a satisfactory standard for the simplest of duties. They turned out conscientious women, strong, healthy and willing. If they married a tenant farmer they could keep the accounts. If their father was the coachman they usually had an eye for a horse. Such applied precise social instruction, contrary to received opinion, had a profound and lasting influence. One, a lady's maid, was Zillah, daughter of John Berril, coachman to Sir Hereward Wake. Zillah was the main cornerstone in a highly reputable company of carriers. They travelled Britain, the North of Ireland and the Irish Republic, and yet never did wheel turn on a Sunday. To gaze along the road and rise that leads to the church is to gaze along a multitude of constantly changing shafts of light. A road full of sorrow and joy, of ebbing and flowing tides and times, a tapestry of all the natural events of the earthy life.

They were dedicated with devotion to the church. It was considered a sacred duty to attend the morning service. The strict, stringent housekeeper with close observation kept the servants to their duty. The scriptures, prayers, psalms, collects, litany, the catechism and seasons they knew off by heart. At Christmas, Easter, and Harvest Festival, to celebrate the sacred day set apart for

the service of the deity and church, the fourteen gardeners took great pride and skill in bringing the hot-house and garden flowers into maturity on these very special holy days. In great bounteous abundance the interior was lavishly decorated with colourful display. Five loaves and two small fishes depicted in bread were displayed on the high altar. In procession, the choir boys' cassocks and surplices rustled on sheaves of wheat. Vegetables filled windows and aisles.

Surrounded by pleasing pastoral, poetic, inspiring fields, a grassy church-yard slopes gently away. The church, from the rise above the vale, rises above the labourers' cottages, farm houses and tree tops. With advancing day and encroaching darkness, long after the stirring, musical, rippling notes from Michael Farrin and Martin Thornton have floated over grassy vale and furrow, long after the mournful notes "Going H--O--M--E"; should you, on a crisp, silent, wintry evening, with exceeding carefulness watch, listen and wait, you will hear the lanes of Leicestershire ring to the laughter of the Marquess with a grin on his face, a sparkle in his eye, exuberance in his prank-playing heart as he goes frolicking, jaunting home.

My grateful thanks to the holders of the mansion Andrew and Susan without whom it would not have been possible, Derek Webster of the Duke's Room, Asfordby Coal Mine, Dennis and Ruth Bolt, Marion Miles MBE RD, His Grace the Duke of Marlborough and the staff at Blenheim Palace and especially to John Forster for his infinite patience.

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FOUNTAIN INN FUN NIGHT

TEAM LARD would like to thank everyone who helped to make the Fun Night at the Fountain Inn on December 13th 1994 such a success. Local traders generously gave raffle and competition prizes, plus monetary donations in order to raise money to ease the life of local cerebral palsy sufferer Stephen Cousins.

Donations were received from Ratcliffe Off-Licence, Sileby Convenience Store, Ye Olde Corner Shop, Mercury News Shop, Forbuoys King Street, Rob Bancroft - butcher, Garlands, Oasis, Heaps Hardware, Sileby Pet Supplies, Bunters Cafe and Co-op Xtra Store.

Thanks to their generosity and that of local people who joined in the fun, a total of £152 was raised. The money has been used to pay for a much needed padded cover to fit a specially designed car seat for Stephen plus extra bedding to ease the burden on Stephen's devoted parents.

Special thanks go to Joyce and Trevor for allowing us to use the Fountain for our Fun Night at such short notice.

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THE METHODIST LADIES CIRCLE FLOWER FESTIVAL

The Methodist Ladies Circle invite you to their Annual Flower Festival Weekend on **June 17th, 18th and 19th**. The theme this year is "The Seasons Come and Go" and plans are being made to make it a great success. The Church will be decorated by members and friends. The usual stalls will be in the school hall on Saturday. Coffee, lunch and teas will be served. Sunday Services will be held at 10.45 am and 6 pm and the Church will be open for visitors during the afternoon and again on Monday. We hope to have an entertaining programme in the evening as our finale.

All proceeds are for Church funds and we ask for your support.

The Ladies meet every Monday at 7.30 pm and have an interesting programme - new members would be very welcome.

Coffee mornings are held every Thursday in the School Room at 10 am. Everyone is welcome.

Contact - Dorothy Harriman (Sileby 813148)

MEMORIES OF VE DAY

The crackling of the intercom awoke us, then the voice of the Orderly Officer on the air, "Good morning girls today is VE Day, May 8th 1945". Everyone of us Ack Ack girls was awake, it was also my birthday.

We had all volunteered to work that day with the Promise of an extra days' leave later. Each one had a reason, mine being my husband, whom I had married the previous December and was still serving with the 42nd Battalion Royal Marines, training somewhere in India for jungle war with the Japanese - there was still another war to win. The atom bomb had not been discovered then, but thankfully its discovery saved so many lives.

Several of the other girls had husbands, brothers or sweethearts out there. One girl I was with, her brother was a staff sargeant in the Paratroopers had been last seen jumping off the train taking the prisoners back to Germany to prisoner-of-war camps.

I never heard anymore after I was demobbed whether he came back to England. After visiting the ***** we made our way down to the main dining room which was about ten minutes walk.

The dining room was alive with the rumour that the first list of personnel to be demobbed would be posted on the noticeboard that day.

After breakfast we made our way back to the billets, to make our beds and tidy up our barrack room ready for inspection, then fall in for parade to the Ordinance Depot. We all sang as we marched, all the songs, White Cliffs of Dover, You are My Sunshine, and all the songs we had sung throughout the war, but never on the march, through the streets before. Even the civilians on the streets joined in with us.

The Italian prisoners who worked along with us were happy, because they too would soon be on the way home.

Jessie's company stationed on Doodle Bug Alley had been disbanded, and Jessie had been posted to Ordinance at Nottingham, so we only met a few times at the Sibley dances, until later she joined the factory where I worked. Back home my parents were preparing to get things ready such as rations along with friends and neighbours for street parties of Ratcliffe Road, for which they were planning to have, at the end of the Japanese war.

Age shall not weary them or the years condemn. At the going down of the sun, and in the morning, we will remember them.



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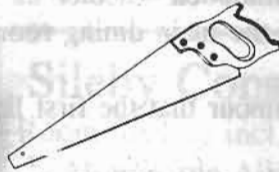
£6 - 95

PLANE NO.4
SMOOTHING
budget

£5 - 95



JACKSAW 20"
Hardpoint



£6 - 50

BUCKET
Builders Black



99p

ADDIS MOP
Complete



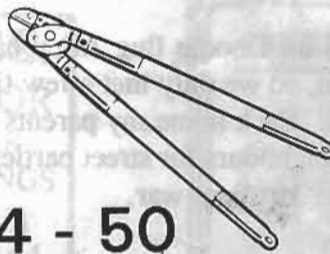
£6 - 95

SPIRIT LEVEL 24"
Aluminium Draper

£6 - 50



LOPPING SHEARS
22" Budget



£4 - 50

ROOFING FELT



10m std. 14kg 165.006 £5 - 95

10m grn. 20kg 165.011 £8 - 95

LAWN RAKE
with Plastic Head
& Handle

£2 - 95



PASTE TABLE
Hardboard Top

£8 - 95



TRAILING SOCKET

4 gang 1m cable

£5 - 95



PLYWOOD. ALL GLASS
HARDBOARD. CUT NETTING
CHIPBOARD. TO FELT
MOULDINGS. SIZE KEYS
WOOD. POLYTHENE