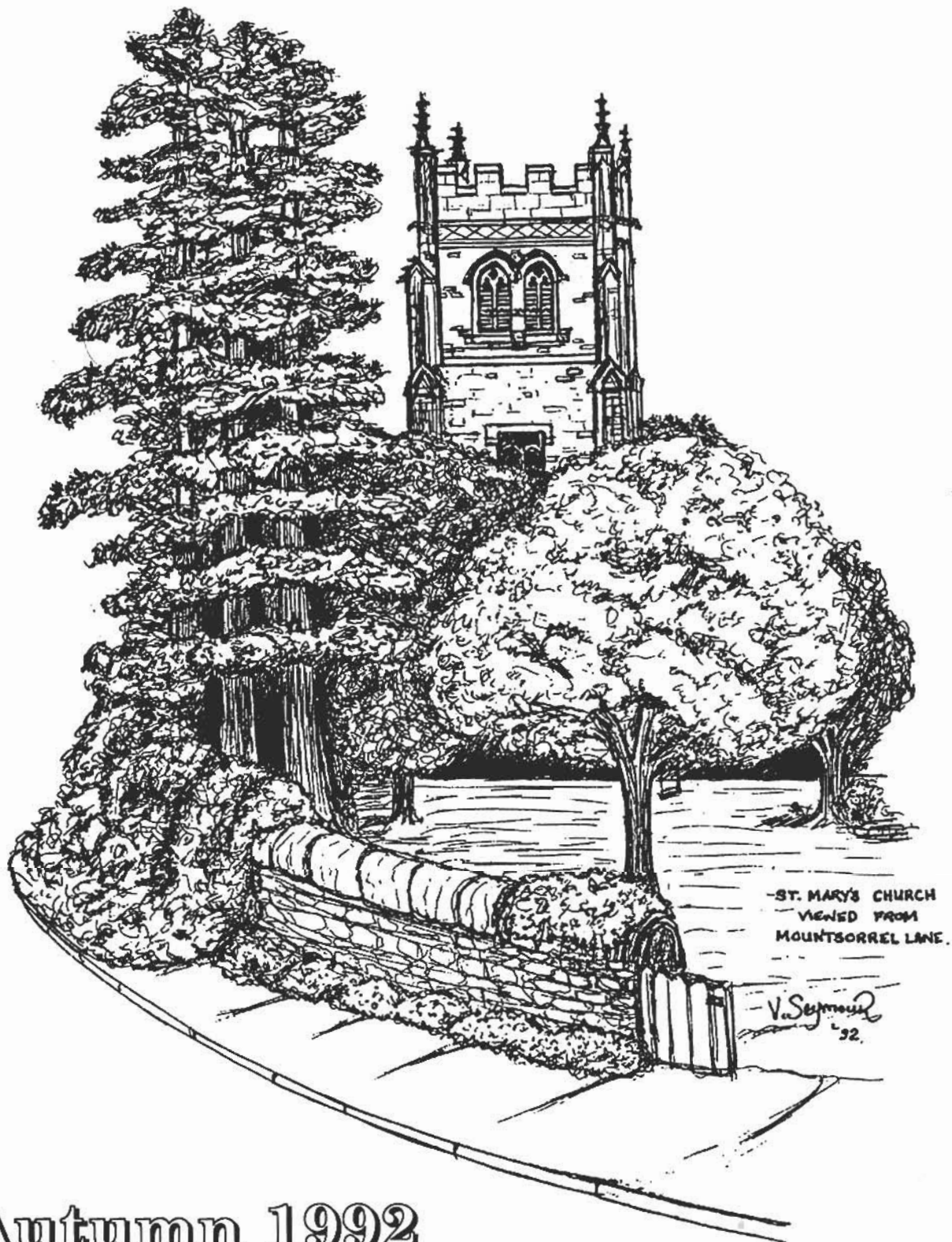


THE STOCKADE



Autumn 1992

ISSUE 6 : Sileby Community Magazine

The front cover of St Mary's Church is by Vivienne Seymour, a local artist (Loughborough College of Art and Design Training).

Vivienne, who is currently exhibiting in The Banks Surgery, would like to offer guidance and classes during the daytime from this Autumn. For those who are interested, please ring Sileby 814671 for further details. She is also available for commissions.

Thanks to everyone who's helped with this edition - those of you walking the streets delivering, everyone who has submitted articles and of course the advertisers.

Any articles and advertisements required for inclusion in the 7th Stockade (December 1992) can be given to any of The Stockade Committee or left at Wrights the Butchers or Powderlys Chemist, (both in the High Street). The closing date is 31st October.

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

Editorial Committee:-

Tom Mugridge Sileby 813142
Eric Wright Sileby 814472

Liz Robinson Sileby 812871
Janis Bishop Sileby 814754



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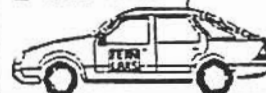
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*Closing date is the 31st October for the
CHRISTMAS EDITION*

Contact : Liz Robinson 812871 or
Janis Bishop 814754 for further details.

Editorial.

We have been loaned a copy of "Community News" (an early Sileby Village newsletter) dated November 1980. It makes interesting reading in that all the topics raised then are still being raised today. There is a report of the second A.G.M. of the Swimming Pool Fund, under the chairmanship of Mrs. Betty Crick, where it was reported that the fund stood at £9,296=86 plus a further £2000 promised.

The Parish Council advertised for a part time "Environmental Litter Collector" in order to keep the village clean. They were also concerned by vandalism and the fouling of the Memorial Park by dogs. Back in 1980, the question was also raised "Does the village still want a Parade and Gala? If so a Secretary and committee members are wanted".

So as you can see nothing has changed in the village in the last 12 years; isn't it time something did?

Despite the reactions of some people to the presentation of "Moll Cutpurse" in June, the Stockade committee have arranged another night at the theatre. This time to see a production of "Creature" which is a comedy suitable for everyone. I hope the village will support this in the same wonderful way as the previous two productions.

As was stated in the last issue's editorial, some articles were included to stimulate thought in the village; they certainly did. However, most responses were just critical rather than providing constructive and spirited replies.

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SILEBY SWIMMING POOL FUND

As one of many interested people in Sileby, I should like to know once and for all exactly how much is in the Swimming Pool Fund, where it is, who is on the committee and what is happening to ensure the people of Sileby reap some benefit from it.

As a resident of this village for 30 years and with a distinct memory of sending money for the fund to school with two offspring on a regular basis, I feel along with other parents and subscribers that we should now be entitled to a definite answer to what benefits this village is about to derive from this long-term fund raising.

As far as I personally can recollect, the fund was initially launched in 1978 and it was not until July 1987 that I know a letter was sent to the Borough Council requesting aid. The reply was that the Borough Council would be unlikely to invest in a swimming pool for Sileby, but suggested that the £20,000 then to hand in the fund could be better used in some other form of village facility and that the Swimming Pool Committee and the Parish Council should get together, use their initiative and consider other options which the Borough Council may then be willing to give financial aid to. A second letter was then sent by Mrs Eileen Hubbard (who you will recollect has written to the Stockade in past issues) to our MP Stephen Dorrell on the 1st January 1988 and the reply received on 26th January merely stated once again that the Borough Council had advised that Mountsorrel was more likely to be considered for a swimming pool and the PEOPLE OF SILEBY should decide what should be done with the now inflated fund of £21,000.

David Harris, who was chief executive for Charnwood offered to give advice to the Swimming Pool Committee if he was asked for it - Was he ever asked ?

Then in April 1988 a meeting was requested by Mrs Eileen Hubbard with the Swimming Pool Committee - and I understand it was arranged and cancelled three times before eventually being held - with Mrs Hubbard and Mrs Kay Machin representing the village peoples interest. The outcome of that meeting was that it was written into the original plan that the money could not be used for anything else other than a swimming pool and no further comments were made!

Although I am not sure when the board came down from outside King Street school showing the level funds had reached, it was showing around £25,000 so by now with interest surely the fund must be around the £40,000 + mark - How much is it? And where is it being invested?

As the copy of the letter in the Stockade issue no 5 was distributed at the beginning of June to every household in Sileby, presumably the Swimming Pool Committee received a copy of this- The Swimming Pool Committee were also given a copy of the letter a week after the 'previous' Stockade had been distributed thereby giving them plenty of time to hold a meeting to discuss and draft a reply to the questions asked- So could the people of Sileby and Mrs Hubbard please be afforded the courtesy of a reply to the questions asked.

Thank-You.

I for one look forward to receiving my next Stockade with what is hoped will be a clear and decisive statement from the Swimming Pool Committee as to the upto date figures and aims of this long drawn out fund raising.

NAME AND ADDRESS SUPPLIED.

The Stockade Committee passed this letter to members of The Swimming Pool Committee for comment and we are pleased to be able to print their reply

below:-

Thank you for letting us have sight of this letter which has been shown to a meeting of the committee of Sileby Swimming Pool Fund. Your correspondent would appear to have missed earlier editions of The Stockade which gave details of contacts for the committee together with the current position with regard to the fund.

Activities for fund raising have been curtailed in the recent past, awaiting a better economic climate; however monies held have been invested in the Halifax Building Society and Barclays Bank and the latest audited statement of realisable assets show a total of £31,615. A total which whilst not enough to start building a swimming pool is a considerable commitment towards the project.

The Committee are steadfast in their aim to help provide a pool in the village and will be pleased to meet your correspondent and any interested parties to explain their aims further at a meeting they have arranged at the Community Centre on Wednesday 14th October at 8pm.

Sileby needs and deserves more facilities. Come along and support the pool fund.

JOHN LAURANCE On behalf of Sileby Swimming Pool Committee.

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SILEBY COMMUNITY CENTRE

In the last issue of The Stockade we included an article about the future of our Community Centre. We were inundated with verbal complaints about its contents, although only one letter was received. This has been included below and gives the general idea of the grievances. Tom Mugridge, who wrote the original article, gives his reply, as well as a few more ideas.

"If Mr Mugridge intended to upset a lot of elderly Sileby people - Members of The Evergreen Club and a lot of younger people - Members of The Sileby Working Mens' Club, then he has succeeded!"

His brainchild of taking over The Village Institute or The Working Mens' Club as the future Community Centre is just not on, as both are held by trustees and are not for sale or conversion.

I think Mr Mugridge would be wise to find out all the facts before writing all the rubbish that so upsets members of the various factions."

Mr J.E.F.DAKIN

Trustee of The Village Institute,
Chairman of the Evergreen Club.

- In reply to Mr Dakin, it is obvious that he and many others have missed the point of the article. This was to point out that the lease of The Community Centre is due for renewal in approximately five years time and to suggest various options which could be considered.

There was never any suggestion that either The Village Institute or The Working Mens' Club should be sold, merely that these two buildings had some facilities at present provided by The Community Centre (for which the Parish pays rent to Charnwood Borough Council), which could be used if the present Centre was returned to Charnwood.

When the original lease was offered to the Parish Council by Charnwood Borough Council some years ago, they were given only a few weeks to decide whether the village wanted to take on the building and associated expenses. It is felt by a lot of people that more careful consideration should have been given before the decision was made.

To return to the point of the article, The Parish Council, not wanting to be in a similar position have already had informal talks with officers from the Borough Council. Charnwood have said that any suggestions from Sileby as regards the future of the Centre at the end of the lease will be considered. So what options do we have?

1. **Renew the lease.** There is little doubt that the rent for the Community Centre will be increased, as well as the costs of repair which the Parish is responsible.
2. **Buy the building off Charnwood Borough Council.** Again, repair cost for such an old building are likely to be high, and with this option an amount of cash will be required by Charnwood Borough Council.
3. **Start saving now to construct a purpose built community centre.**
4. **Use the facilities which already exist in some of the other buildings in the village and forego a village community centre.**

Finally, the last paragraph of the article begs the question "What would have happened to The Village Institute if the relief road had been built? Would it have been rebuilt on The Memorial Park as the Parish Council agreed?"

MR T.J. MUGRIDGE

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Have you heard any good jokes recently? - Sileby Brownies have and here they are:

Why did the orange stop at the top of the hill?
Because it ran out of juice.

Why do birds fly south?
Because it's too far to walk.

What is a frogs favourite game?
Hopscotch.

What's pink and wobbly and belongs to grandad?
Grandma.

Why did the hedgehog cross the road?
To see his flat mate.

Knock, knock. Who's there? Count. Count who?
Count yourself lucky I nipped out and had a bite earlier!



The following word search was sent in by Jodie Freer, aged 12.

Sileby
Andrews
Pet Shop
Chemist
Paul Matthews
Kimbers Farm
Wrights Butchers
Marche Livre
Heaps
Oasis
Horse and Trumpet
Bunters Cafe
Donna Hair Ways
Snippers
Wendys
Fish and Chip Shop
N.S.S
Forbouys
Sileby Cottage
Wakerleys
The White Swan
Orient House

D	U	P	O	H	S	P	I	H	C	D	N	A	H	S	I	F
O	N	T	R	P	E	T	S	H	O	P	U	V	R	Y	A	L
N	A	O	I	N	S	O	S	Y	E	L	R	E	K	A	W	Y
N	W	P	E	S	W	E	R	D	N	A	H	W	N	S	S	I
A	S	S	N	E	G	A	T	T	O	C	Y	B	E	L	I	S
H	E	I	T	Y	Q	A	V	J	T	S	I	M	E	H	C	E
A	T	S	H	M	R	S	Y	U	O	B	R	O	F	L	E	K
I	I	A	O	K	I	M	B	E	R	S	F	A	R	M	J	D
R	H	O	U	P	A	S	N	I	P	E	R	S	P	X	W	
W	W	Y	S	M	T	M	A	R	C	H	E	L	I	V	R	E
A	E	V	E	H	S	W	E	I	T	T	A	M	L	U	A	P
Y	H	A	G	M	U	H	E	A	P	S	D	J	C	Q	B	V
S	T	I	U	B	U	N	T	E	R	S	C	A	F	E	X	Z
O	R	K	S	Y	D	N	E	W	S	I	L	E	B	Y	I	J
W	J	T	E	P	M	U	R	T	D	N	A	E	S	R	O	H

VIVIENNE SEYMOUR

ARTIST

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The STOCKADE is always pleased to receive articles from our younger readers, so keep them coming in.



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CALLING ALL WHIST PLAYERS.

We are known as SILEBY CHARITY WHIST CLUB. We meet in Pochin Hall on Mountsorrel Lane every alternate Thursday at 2.30pm. Hilda Knowles (nee Purt) and myself run the whist drives. Our aim is to make and give money to local charities in the Charnwood area.

Last Year we gave:

The Heart Foundation £100
MacMillan Nurses £100
Lord Mayors Appeal £100
Childrens Society £50.

We have two big whist drives a year in March and November (21st this year) in the institute on Cossington Road. We should be pleased to welcome anyone, any age, who would like an afternoon out. Tea and biscuits provided, an enjoyable game and good company.

September dates are the 10th and the 24th. Anyone wishing to know more can contact Hilda or myself.

Winnie Hunt.

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Sat. 12th	Quorn	Home Aylestone Park Away
Sat. 19th	Leicester YMCA	Away Quorn Home
Sat. 26th	Huncote	Home Leicester YMCA Away
Sat.Oct 3rd	Harborough Town	Away Huncote Home
Sat. 10th	Earl Shilton	****
Sat. 17th	Aylestone Park	Away Earl Shilton Home
Sat. 24th	Anstey Town	Home Highfield Rangers Away
Sat. 31st	Thringstone	Away Thringstone Home

**** provisional

2nd Sileby Rainbows Summer

On Monday 20th July we all went to Sundown Adventureland (a park for the under thirteens) near Retford. Even though it rained we still had a good day. Sundown is a lovely park even though it has no rides like Drayton Manor Park. It has castles, a farm house and old Tudor houses. We had our lunch in one, 16 of us in one little house, it was fun.

There are swings, slides, sand pits, a Western town with an indoor play area and a smugglers town. Each Fun House is linked onto the next with slides and mazes. There's a small barrel ride which we went on again and again. When it was time to come home we were all sad; it had been a good day.

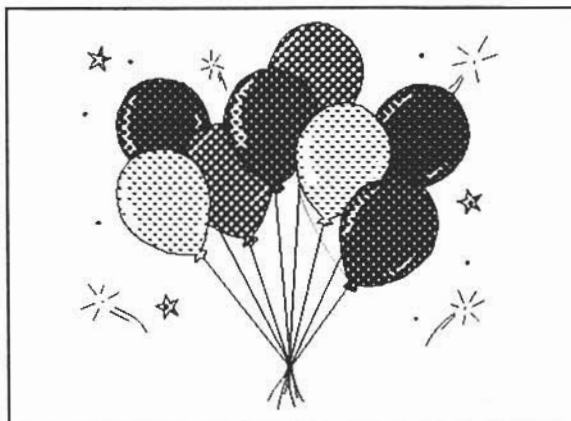
Our next adventure was to rehearse for the gala which took two days. We had fun trying new things; in the end it all came together.

On Gala day we were a bit nervous but when it came to our turn to perform we got on with it with no mistakes. We all had pink skirts and pom-poms which our mums had made; it was great shaking the pom-poms.

On the following Monday we went to the park and played games such as rounders and swing ball. We took hoops, skipping ropes, bats and balls.

Oh Rainbows have fun!

(Rainbows are the junior section of the Brownies. Their leader is Julie Caddock).



SILEBY POP QUIZ

The Sileby pop music quiz which was held at the Working Men's Club in June, was very well attended and the £52 which was raised has been presented to Sileby Juniors Football club.

The evening was organised by John Skorik and Sean Butler, who also set the questions which were based on the music of four decades.

Twenty-two teams entered the quiz and the four members of the winning team, "Carvell's Cretins" were each presented with an inscribed trophy.

The consolation prize awarded to "Bum Notes" consisted of a second trophy, (aptly inscribed "Most pathetic team") with a Ken Dodd single attached. John Skorik commented "If their taste in music is as bad as their knowledge, they should get hours of pleasure listening to the record!".

Due to the good response and the success of the evening another quiz will be held before Christmas.

Final positions and points for the teams;

1. Carvill Cretins	108
2. D.T.T.T.	91
3. P. James' Team	86
4. P. McKendrick's Team	85
5. Swinging Octaves	83
6. Neil's Team	83
7. Les Martin's Team	83
8. Dolly Parton's	83
Support Group	
9. Railway Shunters	78
10. Des O'Connors	77
Fan Club	
11. Beer Cats	77
12. Hit Squad	74
13. D.Cove's Team	73
14. Geeks	65
15. Jacobs Lot	64
16. Sileby Ladies	51
Sewing Circle	
17. Misfits	48
18. Cuz's Team	43
19. No Hoppers	37
20. K.Lovett's Lot	36
21. Bum Notes	30

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The old brewery was owned by a local family who lived nearby. They were very rich and owned many pubs in the county. There was great animosity between the brewery and the non-conformists who were teetotal.

The Caloe family who were non-conformists, did much to develop Sileby in housing and industry, and were eager to see Sileby more sober than it's main industry implied.

One of the Caloe brothers built the Chapel (now the Community Centre) in the 1890's and knowing that they would not allow any alcohol on the premises the brewers bribed a workman engaged in the building of the chapel to build into one of the pillars a gallon bottle of strong ale. This was to prove that there would always be beer on the premises.

Nothing was said for many years but until the building is demolished no one will know if the story is true or false.

W.P.

Whilst you ponder on whether the above story is true here are a couple more questions for you to consider.

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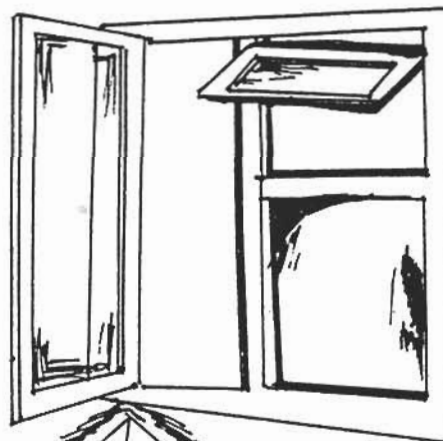
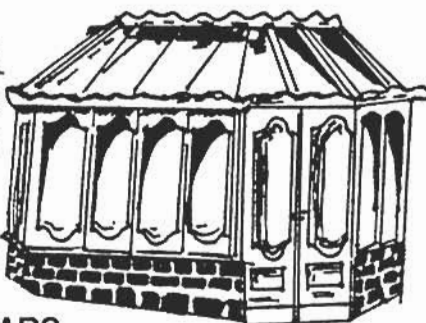
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MEMORIES

A few weeks ago my grandson, Gary Simpson, asked me what life was like in the 1930's as he was doing a project at school and. It set me thinking about how the times have changed.

I was born in Coventry and lived 3 miles from the city centre. My earliest memory was as a little girl when I used to meet my father from work most nights. I would sit on a special seat on the crossbar of his cycle with an enormous ice cream which cost about 2 pence old money and arrive home after going along roads with very little traffic.

Another memory was when the milkman came up the street in his pony and trap with 2 large milk churns in the trap. He used to ladle the milk out into your own jug. I'm sure it tasted much better and more creamier than today. Shopping was so different as well. I used to go with my mum to a local shop where we sat down, while our order was being seen to. Everything in those days came to the shops in bulk and it all had to be weighed out for the customers e.g. sugar, lard, and dripping (which tasted fabulous on toast, done in front of a coal fire with a toasting fork).

As for toys, we had none of these electronic things that are around today. We were quite happy with a whip & top, marbles, pea-shooters - and how many remember 5 stones or snobs as we called them?

I went to a very good school and had a very happy childhood. I remember my days at school very well especially the summer months. In those days, during the hot summers, our school desks were put outside and stayed there for at least 6 weeks. Mind you, I remember some of the winters were very cold and a lot of snow hanging about. The seasons now seem to merge into one.

Christmas was always a lovely time, when all the family got together and had fun. We didn't have a lot of money or loads of toys but we were happy and contented with what we had. We had no T.V. and very few had radios, so we made our own amusements, but again we were always happy and kept out of trouble. We spent hours pinching blackberries and Dandelions for wine and jam.

Some of us joined the Girl Guides or Scouts. I belonged to the St. John Ambulance and am still a member of the Adult Division. Even when I went to work I belonged to the Works Division.

Later, came the war years. I remember just where I was on the Sunday war was declared at 11.00am. I was with my father at a Barrage Balloon site watching the airmen putting it up in the sky. You may remember that the point of exercise was to put the enemy aircraft off course. The war years were dreadful in Coventry especially The November Blitz, which I hope will never happen again. Where I lived with my parents we had what was called 'the gloomy hole'. It was a recess under the stairs with the gas and electric meters in. We used to sit in there most nights in the dark with the door shut. Sometimes we even spent the night sitting on the floor under the kitchen table. We had a brick made air raid shelter in the street but we preferred to be in our own homes. We had some laughs though. One memory is when I was at school during an air raid practise. We all had to go in the shelters and climb a ladder through an escape hatch. One teacher hated it as she was plump and always got stuck and had to be pulled out much to our delight.

It is nice to go back in time sometimes and remember some great, happy and sad memories. I wonder what sort of memories my grandson will have in another 60 years time?

JOAN SMITH.



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Time Changes in Sileby.....and Calendars.

In the reign of Queen Elizabeth 1. the European Countries had the years calculated by the "Julian Calendar" which had been devised by Julius Caesar to supersede the previous calendar of 10 months which the Romans had been using.

The months of July (after Julius) and August (after Augustus) were added and this calendar was in vogue in Europe until 1582 in the case of Spain, Portugal and France and until 1752 in England and the last country Sweden in 1753.

Queen Elizabeth 1 decreed that a register of all baptisms and burials which took place in the Parish Churches be kept. Previously there was no record of the ordinary person in the street, and unless one of these events coincided with some memorable incident their dates were unknown and often people were clueless as to their age.

In the Church Registers of St. Mary's Parish Church, the first baptism recorded is that of Richard son of Matthew Oswin on July 7th 1563. The first burial on May 24th 1563 was of Tho. Sumner. New Year's Day was on the 25th March in these registers.

Sileby's Parish Church is dedicated to 'The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary' and this was celebrated on September 19th in the Julian Calendar.

When the time came to fall in line with the rest of Europe and adopt the Georgian Calendar the error in the calculations when the Julian Calendar was devised had amounted to eleven days. These eleven days were deleted from the middle of September, this caused a tremendous outcry with bitter complaints that people had been robbed of eleven days by the government of the day.

The Patronal Festival of Sileby Church is now on the 8th of September and was celebrated on that day till 6 years ago but the 'Wakes' Sunday is still reckoned to be on the 19th September or the nearest Sunday after in the traditional Julian Calendar.

When the Rev. John Dudley became Vicar of Sileby in 1795 he was already a remarkable man having been to Uppingham school and then to Clare Hall Cambridge University and obtained a M.A. degree, obtaining honours in 1785 as second wrangler and mathematical prizeman. He was elected Fellow in 1787 and a tutor a year later. He vacated in 1794 and succeeded his father and grandfather as Vicar of Humberstone. He became Vicar of Sileby a year later. He was a great benefactor to both parishes, not only by his kindness to the poor but also by restoring and beautifying both his churches.

At Humberstone at his own expense he repaved the church and built a new porch. At Sileby he gave three new stained glass windows and other decorations. He was a great benefactor to the village and at his own expense he had the present 'Dudley's Bridge' constructed and set a puzzle for the villagers by putting the date of it's construction as according to the Jewish calendar in Roman numerals still to be seen to the present day.

The last sermon he preached at Sileby was at the age of 93 and he died less than a month later, just a few days short of his 94th birthday.

John Whittington.

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MY HOLIDAY IN SCOTLAND

On Sunday 31st May, my best friend May and I set off for a weeks holiday in Scotland. The taxi picked us up from our homes at 6.15am to take us to Loughborough bus station for 7am. From there a feeder coach took us to Cranage to join our main coach which was to take us to our hotel, The Royal Marine at Nairn. We stopped off at The Fresh Fields Hotel for lunch then on to Nairn reaching our hotel at 7.40pm. We were met by the manager who told us our dinner would be ready in half an hour. That gave us time to get our key and tidy ourselves. Our luggage was brought up to our room. Our room was on the second floor looking out onto the hotel car park. It was a very nice room and the beds were most comfortable. We could see the boats on the bay and watch cricket being played at the same time. On Monday after breakfast we set off on a full days tour, calling at James Pringle Weavers of Inverness then onto Inverness itself where we could shop and have lunch. After leaving there our coach driver named Alexis showed us some of the interesting things like Coffin Bridge and Dalnahaitch station on the way to The White Heather Heritage Centre telling the story of The White Heather and the things it was once used for. We left at 2.55pm for Grantown-on-Spey passing the village of Dunlaine Bridge also a trout fishery. We had an hours stay at Grantown-on-Spey. We saw a sign saying it was 1000yds to the river. I don't know who they were kidding but we were determined to get to that river and get to it we did. I took some photos to prove it. On our way back we passed Grant Castle also passing over the river Findhorn. The gorse was a beautiful mass of yellow wherever we went. There was still snow on the top of the Cairngorm mountains. We arrived back at our hotel for dinner at 6.30pm after which there was entertainment in the lounge.

On Tuesday after breakfast at 8.30am we set off once again on a full days tour. Alexis, our driver told us we were just a fortnight too early to see the town of Forres at its best. They were only just starting to plant all the bedding plants. They had already planted up a large bear who looked very resplendent with his red top hat and scarf. There was also a smaller bear sitting in a bush. They had just started to plant up the peacock. There was also a large horse with a smaller one to be planted. No wonder it is called 'the floral capital of the Moray'. It has won no fewer than 27 major British awards including nine 'Scotland in bloom' titles. The town's biggest success came in 1990 when it was judged runner-up in Europe's premier floral competition 'Entente Floral'. After we passed through Forres we came to Elgin where we saw The Dr Gray Hospital, The Dallas Hotel, then passing by the ruins of Elgin Cathedral burned down by Alexander Stuart, stopping at Johnstons of Elgin mill shop where they make woollens and cashmere. May bought herself a scarf. Leaving Elgin at 10.30am we went onto Baxters of Speyside where we were given a guided tour of the factory. Our guide told us they turn out 35 million tins of soup a year. After lunch we went to the Whisky Distillery at Ballindalloch to see how the Glenfarclas Whisky was made. After our tour we were offered a dram of the final product but I decided on tasting the water which is used in making the whisky! The room in which our party was given their dram was fitted out with the original oak fittings taken from the Canadian Pacific Liner called 'The Empress of Australia'. When we left the distillery we went into Dufftown to get a cup of tea and some shortcake and also look around for some souvenirs. We left at 4pm. Returning to our hotel via Lossiemouth, the birthplace of Ramsay MacDonald. As we followed the coastal road we saw a lighthouse and a seaside caravan park. Alexis stopped the coach and pointed out to us where Gordonston school was, well what little bit you could see as it is so well hidden with lots of trees all around it. We passed the ruins of Kinloss Abbey and also the RAF station where my step-grandson is stationed.

On Wednesday after breakfast we set off to Colloden Moor stopping at the Visitors Centre. I bought a thimble, pen, postcard and a bookmark. We were told the original name of Colloden was Mossy Moor. We left there at 10.20am we went over the Keswick Bridge calling at Monial Castle where they make unique Scottish wines from berries and herbs which grow in the

surrounding countryside. They also make jellies, sauces and chutneys. I bought some of their wild cherry jelly and a new jam made with apricots and bananas which tastes wonderful. We were allowed to taste all the wines and jams including the sloe gin liqueur and Moniack mead. Then on through Wester Ross to visit Ullapool for lunch where we had fish and chips, the fish being fresh from the sea. After our lunch we went to look around the shops. I took some photos of the fishing boats. We left at 2.30pm, Travelling back so far along the route we had already been along, then calling at Strathpeffer for a cup of tea and a taste of heather cream liqueur of which you only need a small amount to give you a lovely glowing feeling! We bought some postcards before returning to our coach to travel back to our hotel for dinner. Thursday we had a free day in Nairn to do what we liked. Some of our party went to the castle. May and I decided to do some shopping in the morning, going back to our hotel for lunch, then doing a bit of sightseeing along the bay. It was so lovely to be able to walk right along by the sea and take some photos. In the evening we had a most entertaining time. It was the chef's 41st birthday, he came into the lounge and we sang happy birthday to him. The staff had got him a very nice cake and card. Friday morning after breakfast we said goodbye to Nairn making our way through Royal Deeside calling at the ski centre at Lecht which is 2090 feet up. I bought a thimble and a couple of postcards. This area must look really beautiful when it is covered with snow in the winter. From there we carried on through the mountains seeing a herd of reindeer right at the very top of the mountains. Also, on our way down Alexis stopped the coach and we were able to take some photos of him feeding a tame reindeer. Next we had a short visit to the small church at Crathie which is beautiful. Our next stop was at Braemar for lunch. From there we made our way to the Pitbuchlie Hotel at Dunfermline for an overnight stay leaving there at 8.45am on Saturday morning to make our way home over the Forth Bridge via Moffat where we had coffee at the Rumbling Tum, bought some souvenirs and took yet more photos. Afterwards we stopped at the Fresh Fields Hotel for lunch before making our way to Carnage where we arrived at 5.40pm to pick up our feeder coach back to Loughborough via Stoke-on-Trent, Burton-on-Trent. The taxi brought us safely back from Loughborough and we arrived home at around 9.45pm. The end of a perfect holiday.

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SILEBY EVERGREEN CLUB

The Sileby Evergreen Club continues to meet every Wednesday and Friday at The Village Institute for either a game of Bingo or Whist from 2pm until 4pm. The Club is open to anyone who is retired and living in Sileby and new members are always welcome.

Our new year starts on 1st October when subscriptions are due. For the year 1992/1993 it will be £2 per person. At our meetings tea and biscuits are served during the interval for a charge of 25p which also includes a raffle ticket.

On the first Saturday afternoon of each month we hold a Bingo and Whist Drive at 2.30pm to which anyone of any age is welcome - no need to be a member or even live in Sileby. We have friends coming from many of the neighbouring villages who look forward to the monthly Saturday afternoon outing. Admission is £1 including tea and raffle.

Besides being a social event, the Club organise these efforts to raise money. At the moment we are having the Institute re-decorated and repairs carried out for which much money is needed.

We are always in need of prizes for our fund raising efforts so if anyone has any unwanted gifts or anything suitable that they would like to donate to help us, we would be most grateful.

On Thursday 15th October at 7.30pm, members of a local amateur operatic society are putting on a musical evening at The Village Institute. This will consist of songs from light opera that everyone knows. It is being organised for us by Sandra Roberts who was born in Sileby and who has sung at the Methodist Chapel several times. It is sure to be a great evening for those who appreciate good music. Admission will be £2 which includes refreshments. All proceeds will go towards our Renovation Fund. Tickets will be on sale around the village.

If you would like any further information about The Evergreen Club you can telephone me on Sileby 812195.

MRS VERA WALTERS, Sileby Evergreen Club Secretary.



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LETS HAVE SOME FEEDBACK

We've had lots of verbal comments about what you all think of The Stockade (fortunately most of it's good), but we'd like you all to put pen to paper. Please remember this is your magazine - Why not write an article, tell us what you like or dislike about Sileby, what facilities you'd like to see or what's been going on around. We're always pleased to accept scenes of Sileby for the front cover. Compile a quiz or respond to the articles you've read, or tell us of any events going on.

Don't worry if you've never been in print before (none of us had until a year ago) just give your articles to one of the committee or leave them at Wrights Butchers or Powderlys Chemist both in the High Street.

The closing date for the 7th Stockade is 31st October but the earlier your articles come in the easier it is for us!

Do you belong to an organisation or club? Please could you ask your leader or secretary to drop us a line, giving contact names and a brief description of your groups activities, whether you are looking for new members and who is eligible to join.

The diary is now held at Powderlys Chemist in The High Street. If you are organising any events, please write in the diary or tell one of The Stockade Committee as early as possible. This will reduce the possibility of more than one thing going on at the same time and also we'll be able to print your details in the magazine.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Thursday 8th October

'CREATURE' By The New Perspective Theatre Company. Sileby Community Centre, 7.30pm. Tickets and information from The Stockade Committee.

Wednesday 14th October

Sileby Swimming Pool PUBLIC MEETING. Sileby Community Centre, 8.00pm.

Thursday 15th October

Musical Evening By A Local Amateur Operatic Society. The Village Institute, 7.30pm. Tickets and information from Mrs V.Walters (Sileby Evergreen Club) on Sileby 812195. A Fashion Show. Redlands County Primary School. Information from Mrs E. Whayman (Chairman of Friends of Redlands) on Sileby 813250.

Saturday 21st November

A Winter Fayre. Redlands County Primary School. Information from Mrs E. Whayman on Sileby 813250.

Saturday 28th November

Coffee Morning at Pochin Hall 10.00am - 12.00pm Lee Butler Appeal. Amount raised on 1st August was £155.

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THEATRE IN SILEBY

Dear Editor,

Many thanks for organising the recent production of 'Moll Cutpurse' which proved to be one of the most exciting and challenging pieces of drama I have seen for a long time.

From the opening moments with the 'blocked' Middleton casting around for a plot to his final demise I was enthralled. The set was magnificent and imaginative and showed great courage in not using the stage in the Community Centre, choosing to have the audience close to. Having to act on two sides demonstrated the professionalism of the cast who were able to draw the audience right inside the story. The story itself was a web of intrigue of Byzantine proportions. If this was not enough to contend with, there was a subsexual (and occasional overt!) exploration of racial and sexual prejudice. All in all, a wonderful piece of theatre and a worthwhile attempt by the Stockade Committee to enrich the sometimes bland culture of the village.

All that spoilt our evening was the often melodramatic tuts and sharp intakes of breath at the occasional ordureal reference or sexual innuendo from a small minority of theatre goers sitting behind. I hope the actors were not aware of this example of hooliganism and thought it typical of Sileby. Still, we were exploring prejudice!

Keep up this standard of performance and Edinburgh will have to look to its laurels next August!!

MIKE JONES

We have only received this one written comment regarding 'Moll Cutpurse' which was performed by the New Perspective Theatre Company in June at the Community Centre, although many people have verbally told us what they thought! Everyone agreed that the acting was of the highest standard but reactions to the play formed a broad spectrum of opinion.

After the positive response we had to the touring play performed in January, the Stockade Committee decided to try a few more such evenings. Two of us had seen The New Perspective Theatre in action a few times before and so after discussions with the company and looking through the publicity material we concluded that 'Moll' would be just the thing for the village. I should say at this point that the impressions were that the play would be action packed with some comedy, having a plot which revolved around Middleton, a famous playwright of the 16th century who finds and decides to write a play about the larger than life character of Moll Cutpurse. The publicity material announced that 'Moll' would be one of the touring successes of 1992.

The play itself was much deeper than I'd imagined focusing more on feelings, emotions and as Mike said, prejudices. I, like the majority of the audience was surprised at some of the contents of the play as I was expecting to be able to switch off and be entertained. This certainly was not the case and even days after the event, new thoughts about the play came through my mind.

Even those people who thoroughly enjoyed the evening felt that it was not perhaps suitable for us in Sileby (at least not yet!), and more in keeping with the performances seen at the Phoenix theatre or The Haymarket Studio.

We have, since the performance been in contact with David Howard of The New Perspective Theatre Company who assured us that in future more information will be given to organisers, like ourselves, as to

the suitability of their performances and target audiences.

With this in mind we have decided to invite New Perspectives back to perform 'CREATURE', on Thursday 8th October at The Community Centre.

Here's a press release the New Perspectives Company:-

AN EARLY NEW YEAR TO ONE AND ALL!

Visitors to and residents of Sileby should not be surprised to hear the unmistakable sounds of New Year revelry escaping from The Community Centre on Thursday 8th October. Indeed, not only will the New Year have arrived earlier than expected, but Sileby will be celebrating the dawn of the next century. However, it is not some strange madness that has afflicted the population, but CREATURE, the latest production from New Perspectives Theatre Company.

The new play, which starts at 7.30pm is written by Bryony Lavery, directed by Helen White and is described as a "Horror Party For The Whole Family". Neither New Perspectives or The Stockade want to give too much of the plot away, but they both warn you to be prepared for a side splitting evening. Bryony Lavery's last show for the Company was the much acclaimed FLIGHT, described by one reviewer as "without doubt the funniest, warmest and most fun piece of comic theatre for eons". CREATURE audiences can rely on an equally hilarious recipe.

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THE WHITTINGTON BADGER SETT

FUN DAY AT COALVILLE.

On Saturday 25th July Badgers and Cadets from all over Leicestershire descended on Coalville St. John Ambulance H.Q. for a fun day out to celebrate not just one but two milestones in the Brigades life; the 5th anniversary of the youngest section, The Badgers, and the 70th anniversary of the Cadets.

Celebrations took the form of an "It's-A-Knockout" competition with Sileby's own Whittington Badger Sett fielding two teams. One was for 6-8 year olds and the other for the 8-10 group.

'Knockout' games included obstacle, pillow fights, tug o'war, egg and spoon, sacks, tin shy etc. with hilarious results, especially the competition for balancing in a hammock!...There was also an Ambulance pull (for Cadets only) , but not to be outdone the Badgers had a go as well.

Overall winners on the day were, guess who? the 8-10 year olds from Whittington Badger Sett. Delighted Badger Leader, Mrs. Rita Wain watched as Kelly Baker, Simon Freeman, Carole Clarke, Jonathan Norwell, David Ling and Russell Baker stepped forward to receive the shield and individual ribbons.

The games were followed in the evening by a Bar-B-Q and disco when Sileby turned up trumps again! Charlotte Wain came first in the dancing competition, with Nicky Chesterton and David Ling completing the hat trick as runners up.

CAROLE-ANNE FREEMAN

BADGERS WITH GREEN FINGERS.

St Johns Ambulance Badgers nationwide have been growing runner beans in a competition launched on B.B.C 2's "Gardeners World" on 27th March. The winning Badger Sett will be announced on the same programme on 11th September.

Sileby's Whittington Badger Sett joined in to see if they had "green fingers". Badger Leader, Mrs Rita Wain, distributed the beans and waited. All of a sudden beans were shooting up all over the village.

The tallest runner bean was grown by David Ling, measuring in at 296cm. The second "green fingered" Badger was Austin Geary with a bean of 250cm. Nicky Chesterton and Russell Baker were not far behind at 245cm and 222cm.

Some very generous friends and relatives sponsored the Badgers, raising a total of £73.65. Thank-you very much from us all for your support.

RITA WAIN

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FRIENDS OF REDLANDS

Towards the end of last year, parents, staff and other friends of Sileby Redlands School got together to form an association in support of the School, entitled "Friends of Redlands".

The aim of the group is to advance the education provision for the pupils in the school by developing relationships between staff and parents and by assisting in the provision of facilities at the school, not normally provided by the local education authority.

In order to strengthen the "community spirit" amongst teachers, parents and friends, the group has been running a series of social events and fund raising activities during the year, including a Valentines disco, skittles evening and quiz night.

Amongst forthcoming events are a Scottish evening, a day trip to London, a fashion show (12th November) and a winter fayre (21st November).

All meetings of the Friends of Redlands have been well supported and a strong team spirit exists amongst the group.

If anyone is interested in supporting the school by offering their time and skills to the group please contact Erica Whayman (chairman) on Sileby 813250.

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ON LOCATION

One of the great things about working for hospital radio is that you get to do all sorts of things and meet all kinds of people. One of whom was Liza Goddard, star of Skippey and more recently Bergerac and Give Us A Clue.

I'd arranged to meet Liza one Saturday afternoon to do an interview. Afterwards, and much to my surprise, Liza invited me along to spend a day with her on the set of a childrens' programme called 'Woof', which she was filming for Central TV around Nottingham. The actual day seemed to take forever to arrive. When it did I was so excited, but nervous at the same time.

I had to be there at 9.30am. It was quite funny because the cast and crew had organised a party the night before and everyone looked like they had a hangover!

I was taken to the location where it was being filmed, which was a haulage yard, and introduced to everyone. By now Lisa had spotted me and taken me under her wing.

The programme briefly is about a boy who can change into a dog and all the adventures they get upto. The first scene to be shot was with Lisa, who plays a school teacher and a girl called Sarah who plays one of her pupils. All they had to do was get out of a jeep and say a few words. Sounds simple, but I couldn't believe the problems they had.

First the seat belt got stuck, then the sun was causing a problem, a plane flew over which according to the sound man nearly deafened him, and just to top all that Lisa Goddard had a fit of the giggles, which of course started everyone else off. Thank goodness it was time for a break!

There was only one more scene to shoot before lunch, which I was glad about because I was really hungry. In this scene Lisa had to collect the dog and drive off in the jeep. There were a few problems with the jeep not starting and I didn't know how the dog would behave but in the end it only took eight attempts and the dog was fine.

By this time it was about 1.30pm and we all headed back to the car park for lunch. I couldn't believe what I saw; three tables set out on the grass with all the food you could imagine, salmon, chicken, lasagne, fresh fruit and dessert. Absolutely everything was there. Then, what should appear but bottles and bottles of real champagne. I don't know where it came from but I know where it all went!

It was funny because Lisa kept asking if I'd had enough to eat and did I want another drink. At that moment, it really did hit me where I was and who I was with. I couldn't quite believe that I was sitting having a champagne lunch with Liza Goddard and chatting about a trivial thing like aerobics. It really was an overwhelming feeling.

Everyone had to be back on the set at 2.30pm, which took some doing because it was a very hot day and no one wanted to move. The first scene to be shot involved one of the lorries. While this was happening I went to talk to the Production Manager and asked a few nosey questions; One of which was why do actors have umbrellas over them when they're standing around? Now, the answer I got was 'Well, it's so their faces don't look like yours' which had got very red and sore after a few hours in the sun. The main reasons are to stop their make-up from running and

to keep them cool.

Eventually everything clicked into place and we were into the last scene, which was taking place inside the haulage yard offices. While everything was being set up we were sitting in the corridor which was about 15 x 5ft. With eleven of us in there plus dog there wasn't much room left.

After about 10 minutes the actors were called. Liza had just finished telling me about her five dogs, two children plus the horse she owns.

Then came the worst part of the day for me. When it was as quiet as anything during the filming I got that awful hollow feeling in my stomach, where you know that any second now there's going to be a really big grumbling sound. Thankfully it didn't; I would have hated to think that my noisy stomach was responsible for a retake!

'It's a wrap' was what I heard next, which means it's all over. Waiting for us outside was some more food and champagne. Everyone it seemed had mixed emotions because it was the last day of filming and the dog which everyone loved was going back to Belgium.

We all made our way back to the car park where I thanked everyone for a wonderful day and said my goodbyes. Just before I left, Lisa came over for a chat and to say goodbye. As she waved from the car park I thought to myself 'This certainly has been a day to remember'.

By DAWN BURTON.

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Gravel extraction is a topical subject for the people of Sileby and at the request of the Stockade Mr Terry Higgins, the Managing Director of Wanlip Gravel, has supplied us with his views in the following article.

GRAVEL WORKING

THE NEED -V- ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

The suggestion, by a Member of the Cossington Liaison Committee, that I should write a short article for submission to 'The Stockade' roused all my natural caution about rushing into print on such a topic as 'gravel working', not the most popular subject for the majority of the readers of this publication. I was, however, persuaded that there was a genuine interest in the problems confronting both the operator and residents in any area affected by gravel working.

There is no point in denying that sand and gravel workings cause disturbance to the landscape which is unwelcome to anyone familiar with the area to be affected. The perception of the degree of disturbance varies according to local circumstances, thus in localities used to mineral working, i.e. coalmining areas, there is not likely to be the sort of outcry with which the fields in the Home Counties are defended, although a recent survey in Hertfordshire revealed that only a small percentage of the residents were seriously concerned about future mineral working.

There are some factors which have to be admitted. Sand and gravel is a natural resource vital for construction; houses, hospitals, schools, roads, all need aggregates. Secondly, the material can only be extracted where nature has placed it. Thirdly, the demand for sand and gravel originates from the needs of the community, the Industry itself does not create the demand. We are all in favour of good things for the community and we are much more in favour if someone else pays for it. Thus, we are in favour of providing resources for construction, but "not in my backyard!" Such a reaction is human nature and understandable.

County Planning Authorities have the unevitable task of evaluating the competing claims for the use of land, but in assessing the need for aggregates, they are assisted by national guidelines, estimating the demand for aggregate over a 10 year period. Admitting that a demand exists and that nature ordains where the material can be found, one can appreciate how difficult it is to find a site which does not meet with opposition. County Councils may have a firm framework within which to work, one hopes that the framework is logically based, but all too often Politics with a big 'P' becomes the determining factor.

The minerals industry, like other industries, has not got a blameless past, but the Sand and Gravel Association 21 years ago started a Restoration Award Scheme to encourage more imaginative restoration of gravel workings. It should be remembered that the emphasis was always to restore to agricultural use, but it was clear that other activities could benefit the local communities, and thus began the more comprehensive type of restoration, including leisure activities and facilities for nature reserves. It is fair to say that the Association's initiative changed the concept of the restoration of mineral workings. Sand and gravel operations do lend themselves to a variety of after-use

activities, whereas hardrock quarries have other problems. Sand and gravel operators can never be welcome to local residents, but a good deal can be done to foster goodwill. A Liaison Committee of local Parish Councils provide a good platform for a frank exchange of views and, quite often, the complaints of local people can quickly be resolved.

A feature of the Minerals Act 1981, a much needed feature in the writer's opinion, is the ability for the County Planning Authority to review conditions of working. This means that if an original scheme of restoration no longer seems appropriate, it can be changed or if suddenly a Quarry wishes to double its output, it will have to justify its plan. In short, it means both working practices and restoration plans can be altered if the need arises and local residents have the assurance that activities on a site cannot be intensified without good reason.

There are economic limits on what can be achieved in restoring land, but apart from the conditions imposed by the Planning Authority, many operators take a pride in good restoration and while it may be argued that they can be compelled to restore anyway, yet many achieve good standards because they take pride in the work. The reluctance of residents to accept a mineral operator near to them is appreciated, but if such a decision is taken then much can be done by establishing links between the operator and the local community with the Local Authority involved, to ameliorate the affects of mineral working.

T. HIGGINS

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THE SHOE MACHINIST - by Popsie Gilbert.

From early morn to close of day
The machine whirls round to earn my pay
It don't need brains to do my job
anyone could do it even a yob

As long as I keep my machining straight
I don't have to concentrate
my mind is free to soar the earth
and that's much more than money's worth

Yesterday I went to Rome
the sun was hot, it was cold at home
I fed the pigeons in the square,
I've spoiled a 'quarter, but I don't care

Last week in Spain, a matador
Ignored the crowd as they called for more,
He turned and threw a rose to me,
What do you think of that for free.

I might take a trip to Singapore
or what ever they call it, I'm not sure
I'm free to go where ere I like,
By air, or sea, or on my bike

Fancy sitting with your head bent low
Adding figures to earn your dough
I'm glad my brain don't have to work,
I might have been a council clerk.

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SKEGNESS HOLIDAY - by Bert Underwood

I've been on me' holidays, to the Seaside
a place by the name of Skegness.
It was so very "bracing" on the sea front,
with plenty of sunshine, more or less.

After we'd all done our packing,
Including me' bucket and spade,
Each afternoon, "like kids", we built sandcastles
It must have been hundreds we made.

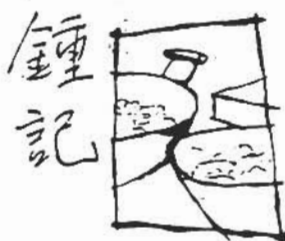
It was lovely to lie "basking" in the sun,
with me arms and me legs all bare,
and all the young men, as they passed along,
always stop, to have a good stare.

I sucked on a large stick of rock
sent "rude" postcards, to all my "posh" friends,
and danced every night in the ballroom,
as I thought " I hope it never ends".

Met a lot of lovely people, who called me "Me Duck",
Food, well, enough for two on my plate,
and to think I don't even have to wash up.
I said to the waitress, "dinner was great".

Sunday morning, by taxi, to the church we did go,
To thank the Lord, for his blessings to me,
and now we are all safely back home,
I'll put the kettle on, for a nice cup of tea.

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SILEBY PARISH COUNCIL

In previous editions of the magazine, the Parish Council Chairman contributed an article of his choice. It has now been decided by the Council that more formal articles will be submitted to The Stockade.

The article that follows has been written by Beverley Burton, Clerk of The Council, and agreed by members of The Parks Committee:-

The Parks Committee of Sileby Parish Council is responsible for the following areas within the village; Sileby Memorial Park, Sileby Cemetery, three play areas namely Greedon rise, Flaxland Crescent and Charles Street, Martins Walk and the Churchyard. Any recommendations made by the Committee are submitted to the full Parish Council for approval before any action can be taken.

During the last twelve months the facilities on Sileby Memorial Park have been upgraded. Following the purchase of play equipment for the older children, which was installed on the grassed area, a new multi-piece of play equipment was purchased and installed for the younger children on the Children's Play Area, together with bark safety surface. This equipment combines ravine bridges, slides, fireman's pole and ramps and has proved to be extremely popular.

Further improvements to the Children's Play Area have been the erection of fencing around the perimeter, notices being fitted stating dogs are not allowed on this area, two new seats and litter bins. In this current financial year safety surfacing will be installed under all other play equipment on the Children's Play Area.

During the summer holidays a mural was painted on the old toilet block on the two sides bordering the play area. This was based on a design by the 1st Sileby Brownies and children from this group together with children from Sileby Beavers and 1st Sileby Rainbows who also entered the original design competition helped to paint the two walls. Children from Sileby badgers as well as some Sileby children not associated with any of the above groups also assisted Roy Turlington, a local artist, in completing the project.

Maintenance work has been undertaken to the grassed area of the Memorial Park with re-seeding of goalmouths in the hollow and also on the pitch used by Sileby Saints and Sileby Junior Football Clubs. The football training area has been scarified and re-seeded. The weather, although good for some things has not been kind to this project.

Sileby Parish Council were pleased to create a new rose bed on Martins Walk in appreciation of Miss Grace Barbers's years of service to the village of Sileby, both as a Parish and Borough Councillor. Bedding plants have been planted in Martins Walk and at Sileby Cemetery.

Sileby Parish Council, through the Parks Committee will continue to maintain and improve all facilities within the village for which they have responsibility.

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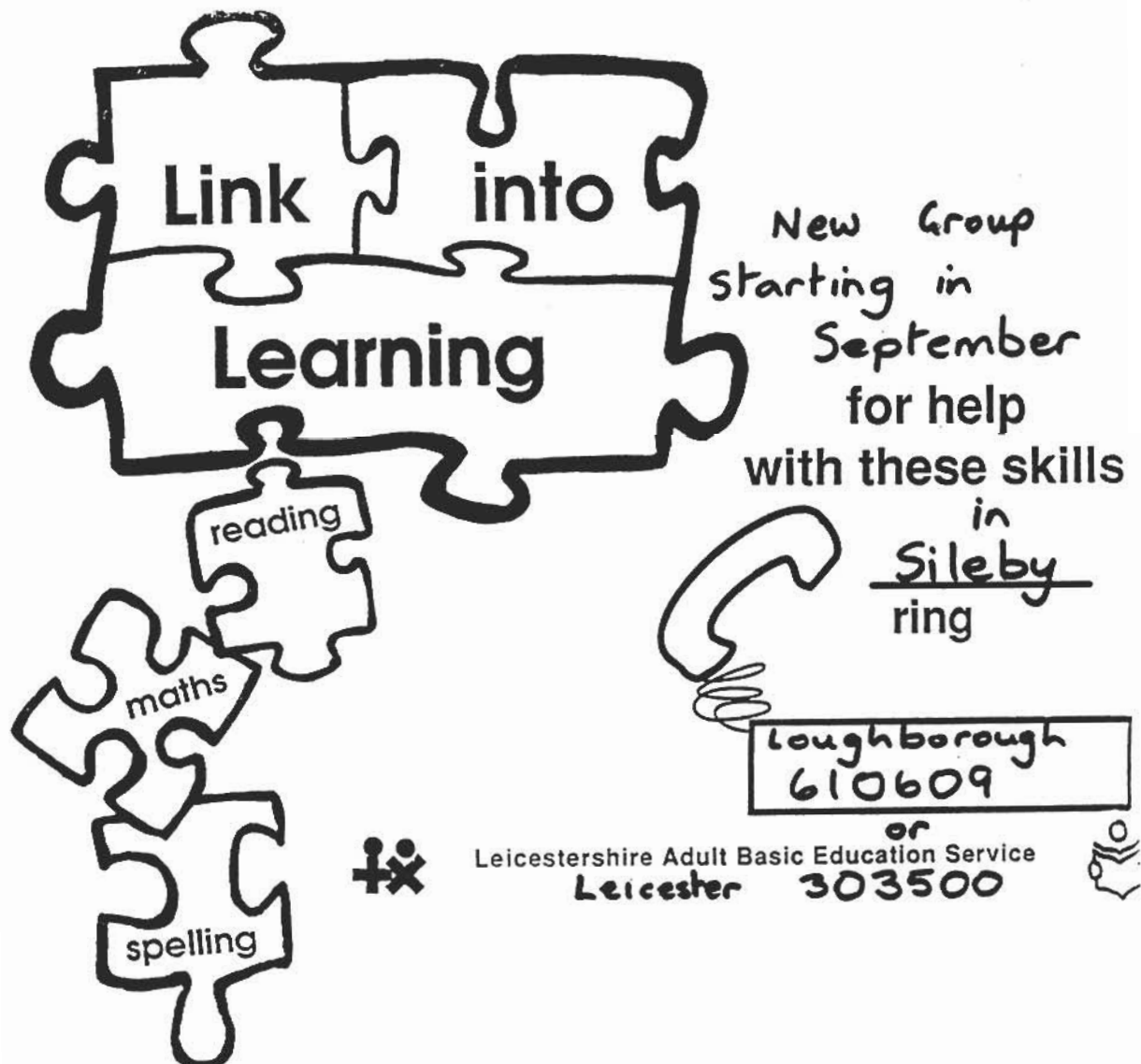
LINK INTO LEARNING is Leicestershire's adult basic education service. We help adults to improve their basic skills such as reading, writing, spelling or basic maths. We concentrate on the individual's needs and work at their own pace, often with the help of volunteer tutors.

It is hard for an adult to admit that they have difficulties with filling in forms, understanding bus timetables, helping their children with reading or other aspects of daily life where we are often bombarded with the written word; but when they make contact with us we try to see them as soon as possible to arrange when and where we can help them.

Already in the Charnwood area we can help in the daytime at various venues in Loughborough and in the evening at Shepshed, Quorn, Kegworth, Castle Donnington and Loughborough. **In September we will be starting up in Sileby.**

If you need help or know of anyone who needs help with their basic skills we are offering a free and individual service, so please phone Jennifer Cowling at the area office on Loughborough 610609.

Also, if you are interested in becoming a volunteer tutor please phone the above number for further details; no specialist qualifications are needed, only patience, understanding and a couple of hours per week. We are starting our next training course in September in Loughborough.



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A GHOST STORY**THE FOLLOWING TALE IS A TRUE EXPERIENCE**

From 1961 to 1974 my parents rented The Fountain Inn in Brook street as tenants from Everards Brewery. This is when it was the old style pub before modernisation. I lived there for the first few years having just completed my National Service in the Army. I got married in October 1964 and moved to Ratcliffe Road. Although working during the day I continued to assist at The Fountain Inn in the evenings and at weekends. In March 1967 our first son was born. My wife went to The City General Hospital in January 1971 when expecting twins, so I moved back to The Fountain Inn for a few days as our young son needed looking after during the day while I was out at work. He and I shared a bedroom at the Pub and on the saturday night my wife was away he went to sleep at about 7pm.

My parents had always claimed that the pub was haunted, my father having heard strange noises including the piano being played when the pub was closed and mother had seen ornaments roll down the stairs from the landing but never getting broken.

Once a lady stayed for bed and breakfast who claimed to be a medium and she said that the strange happenings were caused be the spirit of a child. I must admit I was always somewhat sceptical until the saturday night in question.

My son was asleep, the evening had been very busy and eventually me parents and I went upstairs at about midnight. I wearily laid down on the bed which was pushed against the wall. I was nearly asleep when I heard on the wall against my head four sharp knocks. Rousing myself I listened but heard no more so drowsily lay down again, but within a few minutes the knocks were repeated. This time I got up, convinced that someone was in the pub or someone was trying to get inside.

My father heard me going down stairs and wanted to know why. After I had explained he accompanied me and we searched the premises, even opening the outer doors but found nothing. Deciding there was no more to be found we returned to the foot of the stairs and I heard what only could be described as a frying noise. Looking up I could see the main timber support that ran across the base of the stairs on which was fastened the main electrical fuse box. This was nearly on fire, the timbers were scorching and the main cables were glowing. I climbed on to a chair and touched the casing and it fell to pieces. Luckily I had some electrical knowledge and removed the main fuse in the cellar to make all safe until proper repairs could be done.

I still think whatever caused the knocking noise on the bedroom wall (WAS IT A SPIRIT ?) prevented a disastrous fire and possibly saved our lives, there was only one staircase in the building and that was nearly all made of wood.

By LIONEL C. FLETCHER**SILEBY PET SUPPLIES**

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RECIPES

Both of the recipes below have been given to us by Sally Baum. If you have any original recipe that you'd like to share, please feel free to send it to us.

SIMPLE FISH PIE

1 CHOPPED ONION
 $\frac{1}{2}$ LEMON (FOR JUICE)
CHOPPED PARSLEY or WATERCRESS
8oz BREADCRUMBS
4oz CHEESE
 $\frac{3}{4}$ lb FISH - COD or COLEY (CHEAPER)
SALT & PEPPER

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Cut up the raw fish and place in bottom of greased dish. Add lemon juice and parsley and onion.

Mix together the cheese and breadcrumbs and put over fish.

Dot all over with butter.

Bake in hot oven 180°C (gas mark 4) for 30-40 minutes - until topping is just crunchy.

The fish will be beautifully cooked and moist.

QUICK AND EASY OATIES

12oz BUTTER or MARGARINE (or a mixture of both)
10oz PORRIDGE OATS
8oz PLAIN FLOUR
5oz SUGAR

Mix together the butter and sugar until creamy.

Add the flour with the oats and mix together well.

(You can add a couple of tablespoons of wheatgerm to the mixture at this point if you want)

Press into a flat baking tin and bake at 170°C (gas mark 3) for approximately 30 minutes.

These basic oaties will keep well in an airtight tin for a good two weeks. Chopped apple or dates can be included to add some variety to the basic recipe.

A FOND FAREWELL TO FATHER CASARTELLI

Father Paul Casartelli, the Parish Priest of St Gregory's Catholic Church for the past five years has retired and will now be living in Ashby De La Zouch. Sileby people of all denominations were very sad to see him go. His cheerfulness and sense of humour has endeared him to the people of Sileby. He could regularly be seen shopping around the village and chatting to people.

On 26th July, a party was held at St Gregory's Church Hall to bid him farewell and this was attended by over 100 people including several clergy from the churches of Sileby.

Mrs Maria Dorgan made the presentation of a wallet to Father Paul which contained a substantial cheque as a gift from the congregation and other friends including the 'famous' Tuesday Bingo Crowd. He was also given a fine portrait and several amusing photos taken by Mr Phil Walker.

Father Paul made an emotional reply, during which he praised the whole village saying how very much he had enjoyed his time here.

The good wishes of the whole village go with Father Paul and he will be greatly missed.

POPSIE GILBERT.

SILEBY CHILDREN AT WORK - The Park Mural.

The next time you walk through Sileby Park have a look at the wonderful " artwork " of Sileby children in the play area.

A few months ago the Parish Council challenged the children of the village to design a mural to cheer up the play area. There were three entries in the competition from The Beavers, 1st Sileby Rainbows and 1st Sileby Brownies. The design from the Brownies was chosen as the winner.

Mr Roy Turlington, one of our Sileby artists was asked to oversee the work and painted the outline onto the wall using many of the Brownies' ideas. Great fun was had by everyone for three afternoons in the rain and sunshine. Sileby children turned out in force to help with the painting, and what a brilliant job they did. (Hope the paint came off their clothes, mums!!!)

I would like to say a special " Thank-you " to Roy for his help and patience and to everyone else who helped. Well done to the Parish Council for giving the opportunity to show the village what they can do and finally "Well done" to all the children who took part in painting a wonderful mural which will give a lot of people a great deal of pleasure in the future.

PAM PARKER, (Tawny Owl) 1st Sileby Brownies.



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Dear Editor,

I would like, as chairman of Save Our Sileby, to reply to the letter written by Bernard Sherrat which was published in issue 5 of "The Stockade" (an excellent magazine, by the way!). It has been very remiss of me not to inform the people of Sileby of our activities (or lack of them, as Mr Sherrat implied).

The action group was originally formed to campaign against a proposed new road, under the guise of 'a bypass', aimed to alleviate the traffic problems of Sileby! What nonsense! This was merely a plan to enlarge the village by 1,000 houses.

The proposed road, which conveniently for through traffic would have linked the A6 bypass with the A46, was due to cut through the centre of Sileby and our conservation area. We were to be robbed of our library and Village Institute, which together with part of Sileby Hall and some houses would have been demolished to accommodate the road. This plan, if allowed to go to fruition would have decimated green space, wildlife and our village.

Our fight culminated in a public enquiry during February 1991, where we took on the might of Persimmon Homes, Jelson and David Wilson (a man recently cited as the richest in the county and amongst the top 300 in England). In August 1991 it was announced that our case was won. We were amazed at the outcome, purely because of the powerful opposition we were against, and the fact that only six months before our fight had seemed a hopeless battle against time.

No sooner were the celebrations over than it became evident that a second onslaught was on its way. Not, this time from private contractors or Industry- but our own Leicestershire County Council! The first stage of The Local Mineral Plan was released, revealing the potential for an horrendous attack on our village and surroundings. Large areas of Sileby's meadows had been earmarked for gravel extraction.

The committee regrouped even though the idea of another non-stop year of meetings, petitioning and no doubt a public enquiry seemed intolerable to both the committee and our families. We attended a number of public meetings, wrote numerous letters and started the public awareness campaign with new 'Sileby Says No To Gravel' car stickers.

We really did think this campaign was going to be long and hard, so you can imagine our delight when it was announced by the County Council that after considering new factors exposed during the deposit period of the Minerals Local Plan the proposed site at Sileby would be withdrawn.

S.O.S cannot claim all the glory for the success of either of these campaigns, but we certainly made our presence felt and put Sileby on the map.

We may be good, but not that good Mr Sherrat! You suggest in your correspondence that we should take on the car drivers and traffic problems of Sileby. Why should we succeed where so many others have failed (you mention Police, Parish Council, Local authorities etc) ?

As a Community Midwife who visits the villages in The Soar Valley at all times of the day (and night) I can assure, Sileby is not alone. None of these rural communities were designed to accommodate the traffic of the 1990's.

BUT THE TRAFFIC IS HERE. Whether it is here to stay will

depend on the public demand for commodities, the price of petrol and vehicles, the state of public transport and where employment is - if indeed the recession does not grind us to a grand halt.

Be our guest - begin a new campaign yourself. However, a word of warning; the first public meeting of August 1990 to oppose the housing development and 'relief' road was attended by 300 angry residents. Eventually this whittled down to five committee members and a handful of helpers. These people expended a great deal of their own time, money and energy and also placed great strain on their families.

So, I wish you luck with those gravel hungry, gypsum minded, greedy capitalists and the hopeless thoughtless motorists.

Yours Sincerely
SHEILA SMITH Chairman 'S.O.S'

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BADGER GROUP



The Leicestershire Badger Group.

The Leicestershire Badger Group, which is affiliated to the Leicestershire and Rutland Trust for Nature Conservation, was formed by a nucleus of interested people at a meeting in Loughborough in 1985.

Since then the Group has steadily grown to its present membership of about 200.

The aims of the Group are to monitor the status of the badger in the county. To help fight abuse to the badger by assisting the Police and the RSPCA. To assist landowners and farmers with badger related problems and to offer meetings and field trips to members.

Leicestershire has a wide spread, healthy, population of badgers even encroaching within the City boundary.

Badgers prefer to make their setts in woods, copses or similar secluded places but in parts of the county, because we are short of woodland, setts are often found in a more open aspect.

A badger sett may have just one hole or as many as 30 and sometimes more and will extend far into the earth forming an intricate system of tunnels and chambers.

One or two animals may be present or, usually in the larger setts, a family of six or even more.

A shy, retiring, creature it is largely nocturnal but during the summer months, when nights are short, badgers can be seen in good light often emerging well before sun sett.

Earth worms make up the bulk of the badger's diet but all kinds of surface-dwelling insects are taken. Young rodents and rabbits are dug from the nest and eaten. Wasps nest are broken open and the pupae eaten. All kinds of carrion, wild fruits, particularly blackberries, and almost anything that can be found by foraging, rather than hunting or storking, are taken.

A rogue badger will occasionally raid a poultry house and badgers are sometimes blamed for lamb killing but there is no hard evidence of for this.

Setts are occasionally found which have been dug out by badger diggers or baiters. This is not a serious problem in Leicestershire and is no threat to the badger population. It is, ofcourse, an extremely cruel practice.

There have been seven successful badger offence prosecutions in the county since the formation of the Badger Group.

The badger is afforded considerable protection by law and the badger's sett is now, since October 1991, also protected and it is an offence to interfere with a badger sett or to disturb a badger at its sett. There are exceptions but only under Ministry of Agriculture or English Nature licences.

The Leicestershire Badger Group holds four indoor meetings each year at the New Walk Museum, Leicester.

Out-door meetings are held, usually countryside or woodland walks, several times a year in different parts of the county and further afield. Social evenings are also held and four newsletters are produced each year.

The secretary of the Leicestershire Badger Group can be contacted by telephone: 0664 77 402.

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POLICE NEWS

Car crime is the most prevalent crime. Car thefts and thefts from cars make up almost a third of all reported crimes.

1992 has been made 'Car Crime Prevention Year' and initiatives are being taken nationwide by the Police along with manufacturers of cars and insurance companies.

One in four of all cars stolen are never recovered and the effect of an individual having their car stolen or broken into can cause expense along with the inconvenience and the upset of it. The increase in such crime has caused a spiralling effect on insurance premiums.

Every vehicle owner can play their part in preventing these thefts by taking certain security measures. Stop yourselves becoming one of the increasing statistic by following the guidelines below. **KEEP THE THIEVES AWAY.**

1. **DOORS.** Lock them when you leave your car.
2. **WINDOWS.** Etch your registration number on every window of your car.
3. **ALARMS.** Use an alarm and turn it on each time you park the car.
4. **WHEELS.** Lockable wheel nuts are an inexpensive measure.
5. **VALUABLES.** Don't leave vehicle documents in the car or valuables on display.
6. **CASSETTE RADIOS.** These are a favourite for car thieves. If your radio cassette is removable remember to take it with you when you leave the car.
7. **VEHICLE LOCKING DEVICES.** There are several locking devices on the market which are relatively inexpensive such as locks for the steering wheel, hand brake and gear lever. All devices act as extra security.
8. **PARKING YOUR CAR.** If you have a garage, use it, it's far safer. If your car is left on the street, park it whenever possible in a well lit and busy area. Thieves don't like working in light areas or where people are about.

Taking just some of these measures can lessen the risk of your car being the next one to be stolen.

When buying a car consider security devices on the vehicle. Remember, about one third of all crime is car crime and with certain security measures you can prevent your car being the next target.

From 1st January to 31st July, of the 287 reported crimes in Sileby, Seagrave and Cossington 109 were car crimes.

**P.C S. RHODES (544), Community Policeman for
Sileby, Seagrave and Cossington.**

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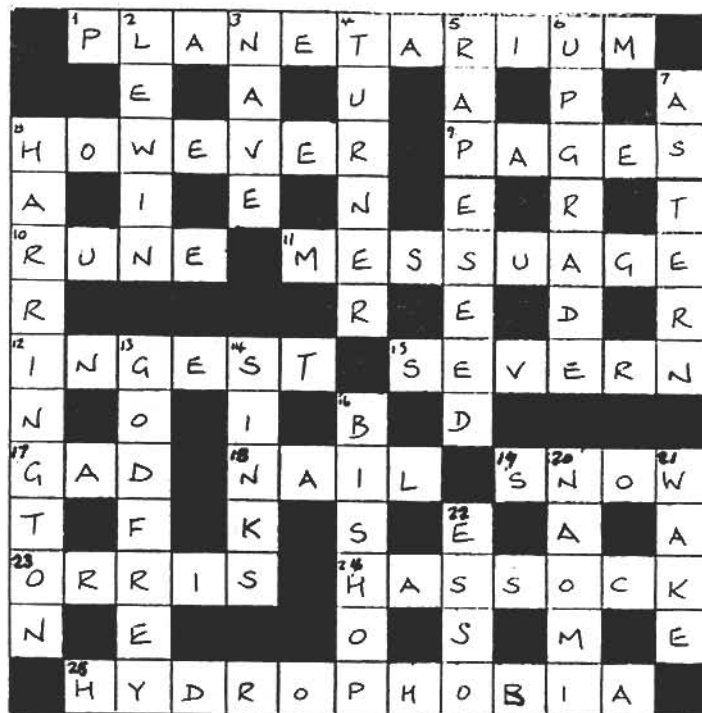
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Here is another quiz for your enjoyment.
It has been compiled by Marjorie Turner.

1. PH on a F
2. 20 BT
3. 14 D in a F
4. 3 WM
5. 2 B in a M
6. 2 H in a W
7. 360 D in a C
8. 6 S to a C
9. 6 B in a O
10. 4F on a B.B.
11. The 2 US
12. 12 D of C
13. 3C in a F
14. 4 I in a H
15. 5 T on a F
16. 22 Y on a W
17. 20 FO in a P
18. 4 S on a MB
19. BS on a M
20. 6S in C
21. 8 P in a G
22. 8F in a M
23. 6F in a F
24. 13L in a BD
25. 24 BB in a P
26. a T has 3S
27. 25 N in a Q
28. 21 S on a D
29. 8 TWS on a SB
30. 8N in an O



Solution to the crossword puzzle printed
in the Summer edition of the Stockade.

WANTED



Calling all ex-members of Sileby Scout Group whether Scouts, Leaders or Committee members.

Please join us to celebrate our 40th Anniversary at a reunion/dinner dance to be held in November.

All interested, contact Group Scout Leader Mrs. Sylvia Wells on Sileby 812761.

The Pinfold

The Sileby Pinfold situated on Barrow Road is possibly, with the exception of St. Mary's church, the oldest "building" in the village and dates from many centuries ago. Originally it's position marked the extreme end of Barrow Road (as can be seen from the change in house design).

The Pinfold is simply a secure compound into which straying animals were kept after rounding up and in the olden days were looked after by a Pounder or a Pinder who claimed a sum from the owner for their cattle. He would not release them until this money was paid.

The most important reason and need for The Pinfold was that up to 1759 the whole of the land area of Sileby was the open field system. There were about 5 open fields in the village and farmers owned their acreage in various "Fields" not all of them adjacent to each other. With only a few isolated exceptions the fields were not enclosed by hedges and farmers each cultivated his own plot within the large 'Field'.

The main arable was in the south part of the village but where an area of good land occurred, often on a South or Western slope this was also cultivated (see 1760 map).

The meadowland was not drained or enclosed. There were only two main ditches which ran directly into the river (which still exist).

It will thus be easily seen that straying farm animals had to be strictly controlled and therefore The Pinfold played an important part in the life of the village.

After 1759, with the enclosure of the village fields it was possible to control grazing animals without so much constant supervision and the importance of The Pinfold rapidly diminished until it completely outlived it's original purpose.

Now that Barrow Road is a main route for heavy traffic through the village and children are in great danger on the road it has been decided by the Parish Council to turn The Pinfold into a small play area for the children of Barrow Road, where they can play under their parents supervision and close to home. This at the moment is being constructed and hopefully will prove a much needed amenity for their part of the village. Surely an example of 'Positive Thinking'.

WILF PRESTON

THE PINFOLD

*Long year ago ere cars arrived,
and cows roamed free as they contrived,
Councils did try their best,
to avoid a public pest,
all wandering beasts were rounded up,
and in The Pinfold they were put,*

*But in these days with cars abundant,
cows are kept in - Pinfold redundant,
Pinfold is used for children's play,
In safety they can play all day,
Their parents free from traffic worry,
on the seats can sit and chat,
of local gossip - this and that.*

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COME ON SILEBY - WAKE UP AND LET'S GET ORGANISED

I would suggest that with all the considerable and varied talents that the people of Sileby have, a meeting be arranged in the near future for all those people wishing to put their talents to good use to try and rekindle the old community spirit. The notice board outside the Community Centre could be used to publicise any meeting. Here are a few suggestions of activities to pursue:-

1) To organise, preferably for next year, a week of jazz, classical music and arts - where Sileby people can combine their talents to perform, or invite musicians from outside the village to come. Sileby park has a natural amphitheatre near the brook for summer concerts. Art can come in the shape of local artists, potters, embroiders, silversmiths, rug making etc. These can be from children as well as adults.

The Community Centre needs more use so let's use it too for some of these talents.

2) Other uses for the Community Centre could include auctions for articles too big for car boot sales, village dances ranging from good old fashioned waltzes with a live band to barn dances, rock and discos to suit all ages.

How about some children's activity days? - party games, painting, modelling or various types of learning skills.

For the people with little or no contact in the village, especially the elderly, a lunch club could be organised. Talented people with time on their hands such as those with grown up children, could do a useful and appreciated service by cooking for these people. A cooking club could be formed where the food cooked is distributed on a regular basis.

3) Christmas parties for the young and the old together. A distribution of cans of food and warm clothing for the old at winter time. Let us help the needy on our own doorstep.

It could also be an idea that people on their own at Christmas share it with someone else in the same boat.

Lets get the young and older residents together more, it's good for both young and old alike.

4) Directory of people who have useful talents but no way of using them, maybe you've moved from a house to a flat or have lost your allotment and miss doing little gardening jobs. Someone else may be willing to pay a little for those jobs to be done, such as sewing and alterations or small repair jobs.

What we need for anything like this to succeed are people whose ideas will be listened to and most importantly people who will do what they say they will do. We need volunteers to help organise. So don't sit there let's get that old community spirit back where people actually find they enjoy helping others or benefit from the help and talents of the Good People of Sileby.

Sally Baum

Any other ideas? - send them into the Stockade. Let's hear them!

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