

talk @ Sileby

VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 7 APRIL 2003



SILEBY VICTORIA F.C., 1904-5

VISITING PRACTICE

Julie Tolton

MSSCh MBChA

CHIROPODY, REFLEXOLOGY

Visits to surrounding areas



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Front cover picture:

Back row: *H. Draper, F. Kidger, W. Clarke, G. Brown, R. Hives, J. Leach*

Middle row: *A. Smith, H. Reffin, R. Barwell, J. Allen*

Front row: *G.H. Whittington, H. Sergeant, W. Bryan, H. Dobney, J. Porter, W. Preston*

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The advertising rates for **talk@Sileby** are listed below:

To ensure the future viability of **talk@Sileby** the advertising prices have had to be revised and are as follows:-

¼ Page £30 ½ Page £50 Full Page £80

These prices are per issue

*Disclaimer: The views expressed in this magazine are the views of the contributors and not necessarily the views of the **talk@Sileby** team.*

Copies of **talk@Sileby**

So many ex Sileby residents have asked for a copy of **talk@Sileby** that we have started a mailing list. Price per issue is 50p which includes p.p. (Four issues per year) Please make cheques payable to: Sileby Village Newsletter.

Welcome once again to **talk@Sibley** magazine. It seems that our December offering was, on the whole, well received in terms of its content. However, the team on the "Parish Mag" have been roundly criticised for the acceptance of an advertisement which took the front and rear covers of the December issue.

The point is that the advert was accepted for a purely financial reason. To ensure the survival of the magazine for another issue or two. Initially we received a small grant to get the magazine off the ground, however, we now have to be self supporting, and it is for this reason we took the advertisement from a local business. The magazine is neither a charitable publication nor a council supported publication, and therefore we must raise funds to ensure its survival.

It's all too easy to shoot at us for doing something wrong, or not to your liking, but we need to ensure that the one voice that reaches every household in the village survives and thrives.

Correspondence to the editor has been limited, and largely seems to consist of comment regarding the problem of Dog Mess in the village. Surely this cannot be the most important and pressing matter for consideration in the village. The Village Appraisal raised many valid points of concern, and we, as the voice of the community in the village would like to air your concerns.

The comment we have received since undertaking the production of the magazine is that we are by and large doing a good job, and that most people enjoy a quick read of the

articles that we include. I even believe that the odd article gets discussed in the pub, or around the tea table.

It is the same willing horses that carry on, time and time again to produce something that the village largely applauds as a valuable asset, and new input is much needed for the magazine to survive or it will simply cease to exist. Is this what you want?

We need you to help us out. We need articles from the village. Memories of the old village are particularly welcome. Photographs or whatever. Newspaper cuttings of bygone events, hand-written accounts of happy times, sad times or momentous times are all welcome. Even verbal articles are welcome. A quick chat over the phone can produce a brief paragraph that we can include, and this might start a string of articles.

Details of events from the many clubs in the village that would surely welcome the opportunity to advertise a forthcoming meeting or exhibition would be gladly and gratefully received. Surely such a mention in our magazine might attract a few more people through the door, and benefit your group.

All you have to do is contact our editor, either by post to the Parish Council Office in the village, from where we will collect your article, by phone, see the numbers elsewhere in the magazine. We will tidy it all up if you require this, copy the photographs or articles and return the originals to you. Most handwriting can be deciphered in due course. We have the technology!

Finally, may I extend a heartfelt thank you to those of you that have taken the time and trouble to contribute and help in the production of this edition of the magazine.

We simply need your help. Use us or lose us. It's as plain as that.

Over to you...

Mark Spence

**Who's
who at**

talk@sibley

Editorial Team

Popsy Gilbert
Mark Spence
Sheila Breed
Roy Brown

Lionel Blower
Kate Skillet
Louise Peers
Ken Jones

Barry Stevens
Russel Dyas
Ros Barber
Toria Skillet

A YEAR OF SCOUTING



Hello, my name is Rowan

and I am 7 years old. I have been in Sibley Beavers since I was 6 years old. I go down to the Scout HQ in Brook Street on a Friday at 6.30pm. We do lots of interesting things and our leaders are called Willow, Poplar, Birch and Big Beaver. In the summer we visit Oaks in Charnwood, when the group have their Camp weekend. Last year we also have the Beaver Fun Day there. It was brill'. Some of my favourite games that we play at Beavers are "fish, chips & peas", "Kingball" and "hot rice". We always want new Beavers to join us so come on kids ask your parents to bring you down.

Hi, I'm Aron

and I'm 8 years old and a Cub Scout. I was a Beaver when I was 6 and now I'm 8 I'm a Cub. I also go down to the Scout HQ in Brook Street but on a Wednesday evening at 6.30pm. Our Leaders are called Akela & Colin, who show us many exciting skills including how to put a tent up & light campfires to cook on. Chocolate bananas are

my favourite.

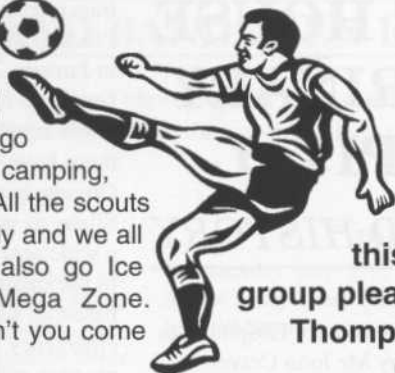
Some of the activities we have done in the past year a Group Camp for two nights at the Oaks and District Camp for two nights in Sherwood Forest. We also had a Sports Day and Swimming gala against other groups. More outings have included 10 Pin Bowling, a Night Hike and the Climbing Wall. We hope some of you boys will come and join us, as we would like to share the fun things we do. Although I enjoy Cubs I am looking forward to being 10 years old when I can join the Scouts and continue going on outings and learning new skill.

**Scouts is
great so why
don't you
come & join
us!**

*We are two Scouts
Martin aged 13 years and
Alexander aged 11 years.*

We go to Sibley Scouts on a Tuesday night 7.30pm to 9.30pm. When we are at the HQ we practice things like knots, first aid and pioneering. Sometimes we have visitors who give us talks about their lives. We sometimes visit one of the local farms

where we are allowed to have a camp fire and practice our cooking! We also take part in football and cricket matches and go on trips to Laser Quest and camping, the Camps are WICKED! All the scouts and leaders are very friendly and we all have great fun when we also go Ice Skating, Skiing and to Mega Zone. Scouts is great so why don't you come & join us!



Calling all parents: If you would like your child to join this progressive group please give Colin Thompson a ring on 01509 815617

COMPETITION

NAME THE PLAY PARK



As some of you may be aware there is a new children's Play Park being built in "Manor Park" the new Barratt's estate. This is being designed for the under 8's and some great play equipment is being placed in it.

The only thing that is missing is a new name for the park area. In conjunction with the Parish Council there is a competition to name the park areas. The council along with myself, will choose the winning name. It is hoped that a prize will be made available but at the time of going to press this has not been finalised, other than to have your Park name for everyone to see. A sign will also be put up with the name on the fringe of the area to show villagers the new name. Just for some historical and local information to get the creative juices flowing:- The site used to be the Harlequin Wallpaper Factory, and

referred to as the Melody Mills site from 1946. The road names are Melody Drive, Harlequin Way and Saville Way. The only names that cannot be used (other than offensive ones) are names of anyone living, or the name of anywhere locally that it may be confused with.

The closing dates for entries is the 30th May and the winner will be notified before the next issue.

Please send all entries to Mrs L Peers, 7 Melody Drive, Sibleby.

Come on! Get those brains working, we want a good name that reflects all the regeneration that we are seeing in Sibleby.

Get involved!

CHINE HOUSE VETERINARY HOSPITAL

A POTTED HISTORY

Chine House Veterinary Hospital was established by Mr John Craven, who qualified in 1952 and opened his first surgery in Syston. He then moved on to Cossington in 1960. As the practice continued to grow, in 1970 he took on a partner Michael Minns (who has just retired in October 2002) followed by John Coope, Robin Kernohan and Conleth Hassett. Further expansion over the years led to the purchase of Sileby Hall in May 1994. Many people in the Village probably saw little change over the next few years to exterior of the building but as always Chine House and Sileby Hall was changing rapidly on the inside.

Sadly Mr Craven passed away in August 2000, however, his legendary veterinary ways live on in many peoples hearts. In October 2000 we completed our New Equine operating Theatre and called it "The John Craven Equine Unit" in his honour. The unit took about 5 months to complete and then just on completion the bad winds of October 2000 took down the stable roof and re-arranged the Equine Unit roof. Therefore, the opening was delayed until January 2001. A large crowd arrived to celebrate the opening. The unit has since proved itself and enables us to give our clients a good and efficient service. During October 2001 we undertook a refurbishment programme for Sileby Hall and now have 2 operating units for small animals as well. Therefore, the old Hall as it was has slowly undergone the

transformation into a modern Veterinary Practice. We achieved our hospital status in January 2002 and have not looked back since.

We employ 35 staff in total and some of those have lived in Sileby all of their lives. Obviously many of our clients live in Sileby as well. We have 7 vets who cover a wide area on their daily calls and 3 vets in the small animal department who are based on site unless required for an emergency home visit. We are a very busy practice and hope it will continue to grow. We do not intend to do any more changes internally or externally at the moment but who knows what the future will bring.

All the partners and Staff. Chine house Veterinary Hospital, Sileby Hall, Cossington Road, Sileby, Telephone 01509 812446 (24 hours)

BROADBAND IN SILEBY

Two Villagers David Elliott and Bill McDowell have put a campaign together to bring broadband to Sileby exchange. BT has said that if 300 people on the Sileby exchange pre register they will upgrade the exchange.

After having the Local MP Andy Reed's full backing for the campaign hopefully this will inspire the residents of Sileby to join the campaign to bring Sileby, up to date with broadband technology.

BRASS BANDS AND BANDSMEN IN SILEBY

Following the publication of the Band photograph in the last edition we thought you might like to know a little more about the history of Brass Bands and Bandsmen in Sileby

1888

The first Brass Band in Sileby was formed by the Primitive Methodist Chapel, it was named Sileby Temperance Band. Later when it was disbanded, it was reformed as the Sileby Imperial Silver Prize Band.

1910

On Friday May 20th 1910 at 1pm a memorial service to the late King Edward VII was held in St Mary's Church, at which the Sileby Town Band under Bandsmaster Clarke played Handel's Largo, Chopin's Funeral March.

On Saturday July 2nd, the Adults School's 3rd Annual Parade was held, the procession was accompanied by both the Town and Imperial Bands

1911

A complimentary benefit concert on behalf of Mr "Tricker" Preston was given by members of the Town Band, in the National Schoolroom on November 6th. Mr W H Sharpe presided and in the course of a short speech set forth Mr Preston's musical attainments and the help he had given to charity throughout his life. Mr Preston as a youth spent five years in the Leicester Militia Band under Mr Nicholson, who pronounced him a "living wonder". When he returned to Sileby he joined the Quorn & Sileby Band as it was then called. Later he became a member of the Sileby town Band, to which he belonged for some 30 years. Mr Preston, was also known as a composer and entered various competitions. His anthem "The Lord is my shepherd" obtained first prize in an All England Competition, he also took second prize for "Trustfulness". Several of his anthems including "Great & Glorious and Arise & Shine were purchased and published in the "Yorkshire Choralist" also 10 of his Glees have appeared in print.

1913

On Saturday July 27th the 6th annual Adult School Fancy Dress Parade was headed by the Imperial Band

1915

On Saturday 6th June the Sileby Corps of the Citizen's Training League had their first Church Parade headed by the Sileby Town Band. The same band played in a promenade concert near Dudley's Bridge on August 29th

1916

Saturday June 17th The Sileby Town Band headed the Adult School Fancy Dress Parade

1917

Sileby Town Band held a concert in Sileby

1925

The Imperial Band won the "Leicester Mail" Challenge Cup under their conductor Mr "Billy" Iliffe, and thus changed their name to The Sileby Imperial Silver Band.

1937

Sileby Town Silver Prize Band gained two first prizes in the Leicestershire Brass Band Association annual summer contest held in Nottingham. The conductor was Mr C Anderson and the prizes won were the Hawkes Challenge Cup and the Boosey Challenge Shield, both valued at £10.

1939 - 45

Sileby Imperial Silver Band did not reform after the War.

1967

The Sileby Town Silver Prize Band disbanded

Leonard Cheshire Home
Coffee Morning
May 17th 10 – 12 at the Community Centre



FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S CHURCH, SILEBY

The recently held Annual General Meeting of the Friends of St Mary' attended by 22 members heard from Iris Stevens on how well the renovation work to the church was progressing, thanks to funds raised through the Friend's events over the last year in particular.

The leaking roof to the North aisle has been repaired and work to the main Chancel roof is to start at the beginning of March. This work is costing in the region of £48,000.

Also at the meeting, John Burton, reported on the significant improvement to our funds in particular from individual donations, of which the Friends are extremely grateful; Eric Faulconbridge outlined the events undertaken through the committee over the year. Current membership stand at 71

individuals and couples, and this gives a sound base for progress. However, we are continually on the lookout for new members and ideas on how to raise funds.

Much more work has still to be done to the fabric of St Mary's Church especially to the tower and internal electrics. These are the next projects to be tackled, which will need in excess of £50,000 to complete.

All information about the Friend's aims, success, membership, pictures, events etc are now available on the World Wide Web through our own website set up with help from the Beehive project in Leicestershire. Find out more about us from the site address <http://beehive.thisisleicestershire.co.uk/fosm> (note that 'beehive' replaces 'www' in a normal address).

Our last two events were organised for the beginning and end of March; A 'Shrove Tuesday Supper with Pancakes' was held at Sileby Community Centre on March 4th and the Ratcliffe Chorale sang in our Church on Saturday 29th March.

If you require further information on these and other proposed events visit our website, or telephone one of the committee members on 01509 813986, 01509 815525 or 01509 813061.

ST GREGORY'S NEW SOCIAL CENTRE: Project Description

The hall behind St Gregory's church in Sileby had been there since 1924. The same building started life as a church in Leicester in 1882. By 2002 it reached the end of its useful life. Recently we had started calling the building 'St Gregory's Social Centre'; which has always been used more by the village than by the Catholic Parish, and its replacement being an enlargement and improvement, the community involvement may be very significantly further developed.

The centre has a substantial, well-qualified Management committee of nine people, and its affairs and accounts are independent of the sponsoring parish. It is a non-profit making self-financing body underpinned by the parish and ultimately the responsibility of the Nottingham Roman Catholic Diocesan Trustees, charity no 234064.

Total capital costs are £300,000, of which £225,000 comes from the parish and the difference of £75,000 has been obtained from the Community Fund.

Activities previously hosted included Bingo for the elderly, Sequence dancing on an excellent dance floor (which will be reused in the new building) Irish dancing, Mother and Toddler group, regular large-scale shared table lunches and ecumenical course and youth activities.

Activities being prepared for the new hall include: centre for Age Concern, retired/and or unemployed advice centre, luncheon club, possible provision for advice on substance abuse, CAB, Marriage Care, keep-fit/sports, provision for people with disabilities. Our estimate is that a dozen organisations will be providing upwards of 300 people of all ages with care or entertaining each week, with a particular bias towards disadvantaged people. There is a three-year development plan. The new main hall area is bigger than the previous one (162%). There will also be a new linking utilities building with toilets, lobby and a very substantial kitchen.

There will be no paid employees. About 22 volunteer helpers will be provided with training as appropriate.

Sileby Community Centre

Saturday April 26th 2003, 7.30pm

SHEENA DAVIS GROUP

FABULOUS JAZZ QUARTET AND CLASSIC SHOW TUNES

Cabaret Evening - You are welcome to bring your own drinks

Tickets available from Sileby Parish Council Offices 41 High Street

Telephone 01509 813075 Ticket Prices £5.00 and £4.00 concessions

SILEBY PARISH COUNCIL

VISIT BY THE MAYOR OF CHARNWOOD
COUNCILLOR DEBBIE GREEN TO SILEBY
23RD JANUARY 2003

Sileby Parish Council were pleased to have the opportunity of hosting a visit by the Mayor and her Consort. Councillor Mrs B Crick, Chairman of Sileby Parish Council and Councillor R Brown, Vice Chairman escorted them.

The day started at the Parish Council Office and then the first visit was made to the Peter Pan Playgroup at the Community Centre where the Mayor received a card made by the children. The party then proceeded to the Sileby Nursery Playgroup, Sileby Youth Club. On the way to the Chine House Veterinary Practice the Mayor was shown the Mosaic and Village Sign on Martins Walk. A very interesting time was spent at Chine House where the practice Manager, Mrs Chambers showed everyone the facilities including, operating theatres for small animals, stables where the Mayor saw a seven day old foal and the operating theatre for horses. The Mayor then had a walkabout in High Street and King Street visiting several of the shops and speaking with owners. She was presented with a bouquet by Inspirations, King Street. Next

was Ladkin Hosiery where the Mayor and consort were welcomed by Mrs Mary Ladkin, Mrs E Grigalis and Mr I Weatherley and were taken on a tour of the factory showing the production process involved in the manufacture of socks.

Lunch was at The White Swan, Swan Street, where the Mayor and Consort were joined by County Councillor R Mason and Mrs Mason, together with representatives from all the venues visited. Everyone enjoyed a lovely meal and the opportunity for an informal chat.

The afternoon began with a visit to the Highgate School, where Mrs Worcester, School Secretary took the party on a tour of the school including the new 4+ Unit ending with years 3 and 4 performing songs in the studio. The Mayor was presented with a bouquet of flowers by two of the Children. A visit to Redlands School was next with a tour of the facilities from a teacher, Mrs A Clarke; this included the school museum and the new IT area. Next was a visit to the Leonard Cheshire Home, King Street where Mr R Edwards the Manager

welcomed the Mayor and showed them the facilities including, where invited, resident's private rooms. Everyone was greatly impressed with the whole facility.

The visit to ended with tea and cakes at Dudley Court served by ladies of the Social Committee. Councillor Mrs Crick presented a bouquet of flowers to the Mayor. The following is a message from the Mayor and Consort: -

"We were delighted to be invited to visit Sileby and were made to feel very welcome everywhere we went. We were impressed by the facilities

the village had to offer and were especially impressed with the strong sense of community, which has enabled Sileby to thrive and prosper. Thank you everyone we met for making our visit such a great success."

The Chairman of the Sileby Parish Councillor and her fellow Councillors take this opportunity to formally thank everyone who was involved with the Mayors Visit Making a most memorable occasion.

PLAY EQUIPMENT TO BE REFURBISHED

The Parish Council has placed orders for the refurbishment of the play equipment in the Memorial Park. It is envisaged that it will be ready for use at the beginning of May. A large piece of play equipment for the use of all abilities will be purchased as soon as grant monies become available, hopefully, this summer. The older children are to be provided

with a shelter, skateboard park/BMX track. They will be invited to be involved with the designs. The Parish Council is hopeful that it will be this year; again they are waiting for grant money to be made available. It is hoped that the teenagers themselves will police this area, as there will be no further money if vandalism occurs.

Any persons, who can provide photographic evidence of vandalism taking place, would be useful to Sileby Parish Council who will prosecute the perpetrators.

COST OF VANDALISM ON AREAS UNDER THE RESPONSIBILITY OF SILEBY PARISH COUNCIL NOVEMBER 2002/FEBRUARY 2003

The cost of vandalism is paid from the Parish Council Budget, which is part of the Council Tax charges. Everyone in Sileby paying council Tax pays for Vandalism.

Vandalism Costs November/February

£445.00

Church Services For Easter

St Mary's, Sileby, All Saints, Cossington,
All Saints, Seagrave

Maundy Thursday 17th April

Maundy Thursday Communion7.30pm Seagrave

Good Friday 18th April

Council of Churches United Service.....10.30am St Mary's

Walk of Witness11.30am

Hunger Lunch12.15pm Methodist Church

Quiet Hour2-3pm St Mary's

Service of Meditation and Prayers7.30pm Cossington

Easter Day 20th April

Easter Communion9.00am Cossington

Easter Communion9.00am Seagrave

Benefice All Age Communion and Cornerstones Club...10.30am St Mary's

Easter Praise6.30pm St Mary's

St Gregory's R. C. Church, Sileby, Infant of Prague, Syston

Maundy Thursday 17th April

Mass7.30pm St Gregory's

Good Friday 18th April

Good Friday Liturgy3.00pm St Gregory's

Stations of the Cross7.30pm St Gregory's

Saturday 19th April

Easter Vigil7.30pm Infant of Prague,

Easter Sunday 20th April

Easter Day Mass9.00am St Gregory's

East Day Mass11.00am Infant of Prague

Sileby Baptist Church, Sileby

Easter Day 20th April

Easter Sunrise Service	6.30am	Beacon Hill
Easter Day Service	10.30am	Sileby

Sileby Methodist Church, Sileby

Palm Sunday 13th April

Arise, All age worship	9.15am	Sileby
Morning Worship	10.45am	Sileby

Holy Week Monday 14th April

Ladies Circle Communion Service	7.30pm	Sileby
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Maundy Thursday 17th April

United Service 'The Last Supper'	7.30pm	Wymeswold
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Good Friday 18th April

United Churches Service, followed by Procession of witness and soup lunch at Methodist Church	10.30am	St Mary's
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Easter Sunday 20th April

Arise, All age worship	9.15am	Sileby
Morning Celebration including Holy Communion and Reception into Membership	10.45am	Sileby

Forthcoming Events

- Flower Festival 31st May-2nd June, Stalls, Refreshments all weekend
- Sunday Services, 10.45 Rev Jane Carter, 6.00pm Rev Carole Holden
- Songs of Praise 22nd June at 6.00pm

For more details on these events contact Jane Carter 812302

A SCHOOL CELEBRATES!

Children in Sileby are celebrating with staff after their school, Redlands Community Primary, received approval from Her Majesty's Inspectors. The School, which has been working through Special Measures, was found to be on top form, after a rigorous two-day inspection in February. Headteacher, Diane Mullan, who has been at the school for two years joined with Gill Moir, Chair of Governors, they said:-

"I am absolutely delighted with the news! It is clear evidence of what has been achieved by the skilled and dedicated team of education professionals working at Redlands. Sileby Redlands is a wonderful, caring

school with fantastic children. I want to thank everyone associated with the school for their support during this whole process. There is no doubt the future looks very bright for Redlands!"

Her Majesty's Inspectors found that the quality of teaching and learning are 'good' and 'very good' in the majority of lessons. The school is recognised for having clear vision and objectives, which is reflected in the rising standards. Children make good progress in their lessons and behaviour is good throughout the school.

**Sileby Redlands Community
Primary School**
King Street, Sileby, Leicestershire

Continuing Dog Fouling Problems



*Are You a
Responsible
Dog Owner?*

Sileby Parish Council regularly receives complaints about the condition of public areas because of dog fouling. Dog Fouling is a health hazard and it is an offence under the Dogs (Fouling of Land) Act 1966 not to clean up after your dog. Responsible dog owners should train their dogs to go at home and when walking the dog always carry a poop scoop or plastic bag just in case. Cleaning up is an essential part of a dog owner's responsibility. Properly sealed bags or poop scoops can be deposited in a normal street litterbin or where provided in special Dog Waste Bins.

**IT IS AN OFFENCE NOT
TO CLEAN UP AFTER**

YOUR DOG.

**Fixed Penalty - £25.00 Maximum
Penalty - £1000.00**

**SO COME ON BE FAIR TO
EVERYONE, BECOME A
RESPONSIBLE DOG OWNER AND
CLEAN UP AFTER YOUR DOG,
WHETHER IT BE ON PAVEMENTS,
ROADWAYS, GRASS VERGES,
ALLEYWAYS, PARKS, IN FACT
ANYWHERE WITH PUBLIC
ACCESS!!!!!!**

Talking Point

- A SILEBY RESIDENT'S VIEW

Firstly, let me say congratulations to the Village appraisal group for their effort in production of the appraisal report, the presentations at the Community centre and setting up talk at Sileby.

The village model looks great, especially the open square which would be a real focus as the village centre. I realise that the model is not cast in stone and that the model is up for discussion. My only alternative thought is that the new road at the bottom of the railway embankment should be continuous from King St to Brook St. This would mean that traffic would use the village centre as a one-way gyratory system, which would reduce the number of dangerous junctions in the village centre. Also, the roads could be traffic calmed and the traffic would be forced to drive past all of the parking spaces. This would make the parking obvious so that there are no complaints about lack of parking and the parking should feel secure because it is not hidden.

The proposed design of the park is also excellent. The scheme will cost a lot of money but would be very worthwhile. However, to try and reduce some the costs is the remodelling of the park adjacent to Highgate Road and the low level football pitch necessary.

On the down side I think the people of Sileby must accept that there will never be a swimming pool in Sileby. The estimated cost is over £1M while the Swimming Pool Fund has only raised £50,000. A new Swimming pool is proposed in Mountsorrel that is within two miles of Sileby Village Centre and will

have to be subsidised by the Council Tax Payers. I cannot envisage that there will be funding to build and maintain another pool in the Soar Valley.

But, to be more positive, what people in Sileby need is better access to the swimming pool in Mountsorrel. Firstly, there should be a direct bus service between Sileby and Mountsorrel. Secondly, I propose that a surfaced footpath and cyclepath should be constructed from Sileby Mill to the underpass under the A6 following the line of the footpaths. The pathway should be illuminated and raised so that it is not subject to flooding. The path would prove a convenient, safe and pleasant access to the area that the leisure centre. I estimate the construction cost for such a path would be £300,000 (excluding land purchase costs). Sileby could part fund the project with the £50,000 from the Swimming Pool Fund. Charnwood are proposing to spend £90,000 on the path between Barrow and Quorn so we should be entitled to similar funding and there are probably grants available from a number of groups including Sustrans who are promoting and funding the national cycle network.

My final comment is that although the Appraisal Group is doing a fantastic amount of work voluntarily for the benefit of the village they are unelected and therefore unaccountable. At the launch of the appraisal Report the appraisal group stated that they would be responsible for the implementation of the aims of the report. I believe that although the Appraisal Group can work towards the aims of the report, ultimately the Parish Council must be responsible because they are elected.

Once again I offer my praise to everyone who has contributed to the production of the Appraisal Report which has made me optimistic that real improvements to Sileby can be made.

Dale Peers C Eng MICE

SILEBY PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

PROGRAMME April - June 2003

The 49th Season of the Society draws to a close with the following series of Meetings on Monday Evenings at 8.00pm in the village Institute, Cossington Road.

- April 7th Slide Knockout competition
Judge: Peter Cheetham APAGB
- April 14th 2nd Round of the quarterly competition for prints and slides
Judge: Jean Oliver ARPS
- April 28th Slide Match against Fosse Camera Club Leicester and Shepshed Photographic Society
Judge Phil Lawson
- May 12th A recorded slide lecture featuring entries
To the North and East Midlands Photographic Federation Exhibition 2003
- May 19th "Magic of the Alps" Guest Speaker Gordon Gadsby
- June 2nd Annual General Meeting
- June 9th "Malaysia" Presented by Mandy Sherrington and Colin Machin
- June 23rd 3rd Round of the Quarterly Competition for prints and slides
Judge: Ivor Mitchell ATIAP, FAPS, LRPS
- June 30th "A Strip of America, A Piece of Canada and a Touch of Hawaii Presented by Rex Archer

Visitors are welcome to all meetings and prospective new members may attend free until the end of the current programme. In January 2004 the society will be celebrating its 50th anniversary with a Dinner to which past members will be invited along with our current members.

SILEBY ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

I am sure that you all see us on Remembrance Sunday parading to Church, and I bet you think that a lot of us are old soldiers who spend all evening swapping war stores well, some of us might reminisce a little and a few of us are old soldiers, but we are, in fact some 60 men and women who try to raise funds for the Royal British Legion (RBL) and try to have a bit of fun along the way!

Here are some facts I bet you didn't know:

- As an ex-serviceman you don't need to be a member of the RBL to get help and assistance. We also help ex-servicemen's widows as well
- You don't have to be ex-service to be a member of the women's section; all our ladies are from all walks of life. Quite a few ladies are wives of ex-servicemen but some are just keen to help raise funds.
- Sileby RBL raised £2628.00 for the poppy appeal last November, only slightly down on the previous year; this money was sent

to our HQ in London and helped towards the £20 Million raised throughout the country.

We are trying our best to look after the needs of the ex-servicemen of our village and their dependants. We do this various ways including skittle nights, bingo and supper, beetle drives and games evenings.

The men's section meet on the 1st Thursday in the month and the ladies meet on the 2nd Tuesday in the month and both meetings take place in the Conservative Club at 8pm. Like all organisations we struggle to get committee members so to ease the load we have introduced joint meetings where we will hold a very short meeting before embarking on a fundraising meeting. Some of us may be a little long in the tooth but we all know how to have fun and everyone is very welcome at our meeting or just to come along to the socials and help us raise funds for a very worthwhile organisation.

This year is a very special year for us, the RBL has been fundraising in Sileby for 80 years and to that end we are going to celebrate with a parade and a birthday party on Saturday 14th June, so we are hoping that every member of the Sileby Branch and women's section will come along and help us celebrate. We will be sending out invitations for this great event, and really hope that all our members will come along on the day and help us celebrate.

See you there, Liz Jones (816077)

Meeting dates for the rest of 2003

8th MayMen's Section
 13th May.....Ladies Section
 10th June.....Joint meeting - Medal Man
 14th June.....80th Birthday Celebration
 3rd July.....Men's Section
 8th July.....Ladies Section
 7th August ...Joint Meeting Bingo &
 Supper

4th SeptemberMen's Section
 9th SeptemberLadies Section
 2nd October.....Men's Section AGM
 14th October.....Ladies Section AGM
 11th November.....Joint Meeting -
 auction/Beetle Drive
 4th December.....Joint Meeting Games
 Night

VILLAGE SHOP BRINGS HIGH STREET TO A STANDSTILL!

"Living and working in Sileby all of my life it seemed a natural progression to start my business and to open my shop on the High Street. Before I had my children I worked in various factories in Sileby as an Overlocker and Sample Machinist. Once my children started school I spent time working from home, making curtains and doing alterations for friends and family. My skills in dressmaking developed and for several years I worked from home as a self-employed machinist working for a bridal shop in the Loughborough area. I felt I had built up my experience and so took the leap into starting my own business. This brings me to the present day, and so far, (the shop has been open since 11th February) the business has gone from strength to strength.

Although the business centres around bridal wear; including bought wedding dresses, veils, tiaras, shoes etc, I also make to order wedding gowns, bridesmaids dresses and waistcoats for the pageboys. The shop provides a personal service to the bride and customer. The shop also has a selection of communion dresses (brought and made to order) and matching shoes etc.

Other services include alterations to clothes, making curtains and dry-clean-

ing. Finally I would like to Thank all Sileby residents who have shown their support during the last few weeks - it has been much appreciated, and I hope the shop will continue to grow and bring much needed prosperity to the High Street."

Rachel Staniforth-Walker
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talk@Sileby is a community published magazine, which means we rely on volunteers to put it together and collect articles that will be of interest to the village. Unfortunately we also rely on the advertising to pay for the production of the newsletter. Our rates are reasonable when you think how many people read the newsletter. The vets, dentist, doctors surgery and the library all have extra copies delivered so that people from outside Sileby can read it. All increasing the number of potential customers you can reach just by advertising in **talk@Sileby**. So come on business advertise, support your business and support your village newsletter.



SPORTS NEWS

SILEBY BOWLING CLUB

The Sileby Bowling Club has been in existence since 1939 and is still here for the inhabitants of Sileby and surrounding districts to enjoy.

There are two separate sections (men's and ladies) but there are also plenty opportunities to play in mixed fixtures and enjoy 'Special Days' within the club. In recent years Tuesday Evenings have been 'Club Nights' where members and new players

can enjoy an evening of bowls followed by social night in the clubhouse.

This year the first 'Club Night' is on Tuesday 13th May and starts at 6.00pm. If you have not played before there are bowls and shoes that you can borrow and people to show you how to play. There is no need to buy clothes and equipment to begin with, and hopefully, you will become totally hooked and join the club.

If Tuesday is not a convenient evening for you, then please get in touch with Carole Chamberlain on 01509 813094 or pay a visit to the Green (car park at the end of Springfield Road) where an alternative date can be arranged for you to come and have a try. (The bowling season starts on 19th April and ends on 5th October in 2003)

You are welcome to join us.....come and HAVE FUN!!!!

COUNTY ALARMS

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Sileby Tennis Club



People have been playing tennis in Sileby since the 1920's, although many changes have taken place since then. The tennis courts are still on the same site, next to the bowls club off Springfield Road. We no longer play on grass courts but All-Weather courts which means we can continue to play throughout the year.

Our season begins at Easter, when coaching at all levels is offered. The season continues with more activities taking place as the evenings get lighter. Mondays see the ladies enjoying friendly games and much laughter can be heard over the courts. Wednesday is club night when everyone gets together and all levels play; the more experienced helping the newcomers. Sunday afternoons hears the ping of tennis balls and a little more serious mixed tennis takes place.

During May, June and July the Club participates in the Leicestershire League with two ladies, two men's and one mixed team. The ladies enjoy visiting other clubs and entertaining at Sileby and are in division 6. The men, taking their tennis a little more seriously, are in division 3 and 5. An important part of Sileby's Club is the junior section. This year there will be two teams entered into the Barry Rees Shield matches. Last year was the first time for many years that competition tennis took place and the youngsters

finished 4th in division 6.

Many events are organised for the juniors during the summer. Coaching is always on offer, with our own Club Coach, as well as Fun Tennis and Sileby Championships.

We are always looking for new members young and old; new to the game or experienced. So if you think this year is the year to get fit, enjoy yourself and make new friends please give Dave on Sileby 812993 or Liz on Sileby 814066 a ring to find out how to join the Club or come down on a Sunday afternoon.

Tennis Coaching for Juniors at Easter

Monday April 14th, Tuesday April 15th, Wednesday April 16th

Hot Tots10am - 11am

Rising Stars.....10am -11am

Hot Shots.....11am - 12.30pm

**Cost: £7.50 members,
£9.50 non-members**

**Phone Liz 814066 for more
information**



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