

talk @ Sileby

Village Newsletter

Issue 25 Summer 2009



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Forward

Welcome to edition 25 of Talk@Sileby. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those people who have helped to get the newsletter to its silver anniversary edition, without all the dedicated volunteers who write articles, produce and of course the distributors there would be nothing for you to read. Please keep the articles coming and don't forget you can write letters for publication too.

In the last edition we printed a copy of a photograph taken of the workforce of Excel, after this Mr John Whittington rang and was able to identify Walter Mercy and Harold Smith who are on the front row right hand side. Also John William Marston is not as captioned but is the 3rd on the right back row. My thanks to John for taking the time to provide this information.

Next Issue will be Winter 2009. Copy and advert deadline is 31st October 2009.

Copies of talk@Sileby

Copies of talk@Sileby can be obtained by post at a cost of 50p per issue which includes p&p..

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Front Cover Picture: The new pavilion in the Memorial Park.

Photo L. Blower.

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If you would like to give your feedback,
articles or letters these can be sent to the
Editor or you can now use the internet forum
at
www.sileby-village.co.uk

The advertising rates for talk@Sileby are listed below

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

Photography competition is just quackers!

Artists from a local gallery are calling on their community to get creative this summer by taking pictures of rubber ducks for a special competition.

'Ay Up Me Duck' is an exciting community project launched by Vanilla Galleries in Loughborough aimed at encouraging local people to produce creative photographs, film or animation focusing on a simple rubber duck.

By photographing or filming the ducks in unusual, comical or creative situations, entrants have the opportunity to showcase their own skills and they'll also have the chance to win a Flip digital camcorder worth £100.

The competition opens on Saturday 4 July and runs until Thursday 3 September 2009 - at just £1 per duck they should be flying off the shelves.

Ross Brind, one of the artists involved with the project said: "Involving members of the public in participatory art projects is an important aspect of Vanilla Galleries work. We strive to make art more accessible to the general public and enrich the community."

"Whether you're taking your duck to the local park or to Paris, this is a great opportunity to develop your artistic skills and above all, have some photographic fun!"

Ducks are now on sale at Mary Mary..., Quorn Country Crafts and Max Spielmann in Loughborough town centre..

For more information or to enter online visit www.vanillagalleries.com

Cheerleaders Dance to Victory.

Back in March the Queni Dynamos Cheerleaders squads headed for the Nottingham Arena to take part in the International Cheer Coalition British Open Championships. Many of the squad come from Sileby and despite tough competition from all over the UK the older preps squad won their class while the youngsters took 3rd place in their class.



The Queni Dynamos train at the Broad Street Dance studio in Syston as part of the Queniborough Dance Company. The studio, run by Janet Tarry, has a variety of dance classes from under 5's to adult classes.

Since March the squads have also taken part in the BCA Midland Classic at Telford. Here the older preps got 3rd place while the youngsters came 4th. As we went to press they were in action again at the BCA International Championships at

Coventry.

Pictured are 2 of the younger preps squad with their ICC 3rd place trophy.

Strong Men do it again.

Sileby Town RFC, will be doing our second charity truck pull, should be the first or second week end in August. From Loughborough to Sileby in aid of the air ambulance. Last year we raised over £3500 in one day, not bad.

For details of this or Sileby Town RFC activities and games please contact Steve Hillyer, STRFC Chairman, contact number 07860 608550.

A message of Thanks

Alderman and Mrs Dodd attended the Mayor's Civic Service on Sunday 21st June and parked their car on the car park. Inadvertently they left the keys in the boot and some very kind person removed them and handed them in to Tesco. Alderman and Mrs Dodd send their most grateful thanks to the anonymous person who handed the keys in. If they would like to get in touch please contact the Parish Council Office at 41 High Street Sileby or ring 813075.



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Mental Health law changed in November 2008 and it is important that those affected understand what those changes are and how it may affect them.

The main purpose of the legislation is safety: that people with serious mental disorders that threaten their health or safety **or** the safety of others, can be treated irrespective of their consent.

In brief, The Mental Health Act 2007 makes nine key changes to the existing Mental Health Act 1983.

Also, a revised Code of Practice for Mental Health, along with five Guiding Principles has been introduced. The legal status of the Code of Practice has been redefined so that professionals must:

- Have regard for the Code

- Follow the guidelines unless they have good reason not to.

The nine key changes in the Mental Health Act are:

- A Simplified Single Definition of Mental Disorder**

- Abolishing the Treatability Test and introducing a new **Appropriate Medical Treatment Test**.

- Ensuring the **Age Appropriate Services** are available to any patients admitted to hospital who are under 18. (anticipated by 2010)

- Broadening the **Professional Groups** that can take particular roles.

- Introducing the right for the patient to apply to court to displace their **Nearest Relative**.

- Ensuring that patients have the right to an **Advocacy Service** when under compulsion which can into effect on the 1st April 2009.

- Introducing new safeguards regarding **Patients and Electro-Convulsive Therapy**.

- Introducing a new provision to allow **Supervised Community Treatment**. This allows a patient detained on a treatment order to receive their treatment in the community rather than as an in-patient.

- Making provision for earlier automatic referral to a **Mental Health Review Tribunal** where patients do not apply themselves.

If you would like to know more about these changes and how they may affect you or someone you care for, please contact : Robert J. Nisbet. NHS East Midlands – Development Centre. Regional Lead for the Implementation of the Mental Health Act, Mental Capacity Act & the Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards. Robert.nisbet@eastmidlands.nhs.uk

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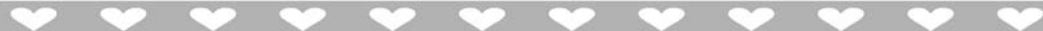
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SILEBY PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

The Sileby Photographic Society will commence the 2009-10 Season in September at the new venue of the Primary Room at the Sileby Community Centre. Meetings are held on most Monday evenings between 8.00pm and 10.00pm from September until June. The programme listed below features lectures by visiting speakers supplementing those by our own members, competitions and some social evenings. Anyone interested in improving their photographic knowledge and technique will be most welcome at the meetings.

The Society holds its Annual Exhibition for a week in October and in addition to the 300 plus prints on display there will be a digital slide presentation. The theme this year is "Sileby Past and Present" and compares scenes from many years ago with shots taken from the same location in 2009. Also included are a number of black and white slides taken inside the Newbold and Burton factory with many of the employees clearly recognisable. Please come along and support this Exhibition and see Sileby as it was.

PROGRAMME – SEPTEMBER to DECEMBER 2009

- Sept 7 Royal Photographic Society Nature Slides
- Sept 14 Thematic Competition – "The Seaside"
- Sept 21 Digital presentation – "Limone and Lake Garda" by Robert Sanders (guest)
- Sept 28 Digital presentation - "Pink Granite" by Noel Wakeling of Mountsorrel

- Oct 5 Slide show – "Himalayan Journey" by Gordon Gadsby (guest)
- Oct 12 12-Shot Challenge – Judged by Howard Fisher CPAGB

- Oct 19 to Oct 24 Annual Exhibition – Judged by Steve Roper CPAGB (open Monday to Friday evenings and Saturday afternoon)**

Continued....

- Nov 2 Digital presentation – “Ferrari’s Year” by Gianpiero Ferrari
- Nov 9 The Midland Counties Photographic Federation Portfolio
- Nov 16 Fourth Round of the Quarterly Competition – Judged by Sue Wilson CPAGB
- Nov 23 Digital presentation – “India’s Wildlife and Culture” by Peter Jones ARPS DPAGB (guest)
- Nov 30 Slide Show – “Iceland” by Val Williams

- Dec 7 Slide Show “Arches to Zion” by Bill Hall DPAGB AFIAP BPE5* (guest)
- Dec 14 Pictures and Pies

Old Leicester Plans

Come and visit Victorian Leicester with a trip to the Prince of Wales Music Hall on Belgrave Gate or The Floral Hall Skating Rink just a few steps away. Perhaps you would prefer the temporary wooden circus in Rutland Street or Mr Israel Hart’s new branch library in Garendon Street.

Leicester’s former glories –and some of its disgraces- come to light in a new exhibition at the Record Office which features the building plans of Leicester, 1849 -1923.

Many are beautiful works of art in their own right; others like the garden shed for an impoverished shoe finisher or the pre-slum clearance houses in Gray Street are a shocking reminder of the harsher side of life. Some of the buildings have since disappeared but others like Dominoes Toy Shop are still very much with us. This exhibition celebrates the wealth of historical and artistic interest to be found amongst early building plans for Leicester.

This exhibition is free and may be seen at the Record Office during normal opening hours. It runs from **13th July until 4th September**.

For further details please contact : Jess Jenkins at the Record Office, Long Street, Wigston Magna, Leicester LE18 2AH.

Tel : (0116) 257 1080 Email : recordoffice@leics.gov.uk

For more details about the Record Office please go to : www.leics.gov.uk/recordoffice

SILEBY & DISTRICT ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

The legion is ticking along nicely through the summer; some of our members have been on holiday whilst others have yet to venture out. Meanwhile we still continue to hold fundraising events during our meetings.

The biggest change has been to our meetings. Over the last couple of years our numbers have dwindled down to 4 or 5 for both the women's section and the branch, it makes organising things very difficult, also each section needs to communicate fundraising ideas to each section to get both to agree. Things needed to change, so it has been decided to meet jointly **at** Dudley Court on the 2nd Tuesday of every month at 8pm.

We would like to thank the Conservative Club for all their help and assistance in the past allowing us to meet there, and we look forward to arranging skittles nights in the future, we wish them well.

I am about to order the materials for the Poppy Appeal, believe it or not this is the usual time for ordering, so that it gives the Poppy Village time to process all the orders from around the country.

Going on from the Poppy Appeal, I have offered to go into each of the 5 schools nearby and tell them about the poppy appeal and where the money goes. If anyone would like to help with any aspect of the Poppy appeal, please give me a call, my number is at the bottom of this article.



Continued

You are looking at the picture above and thinking 'what's that got to do with the royal British Legion?' well we need you! We are always looking for new members, and you don't have to have served in the Armed forces to be a member, just someone interested in fundraising for our current forces and also for the retired forces that need help in their day to day struggles to just get through the day. Every bit of money we raise goes into the Legion funds; we are all volunteers, who just want to make a difference for those who have helped keep our country free. So come and be my Knight on a charger!

All the best,

Liz Jones

Poppy Appeal Co-ordinator, Sileby
Telephone: 01509 816077

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The ‘Cathedral of the Soar Valley’ Needs You.

St. Mary’s Church, Sileby, was once referred to by a former Archdeacon of Leicester as “The Cathedral of the Soar Valley” because of its size and fine architectural features. The Friends of St. Mary’s church was instigated in 1999 to maintain our village ‘cathedral’.

Within the Friends of St. Mary’s Church organisation, we consider all of the residents of Sileby as potential ‘Friends’. Unfortunately, at present, we have only 72 active members, and some associate members, who are providing us with the opportunity to raise much needed funds to undertake repair and refurbishment work on the church building.

Over the 9 years of our existence we have raised and received from grants over £103k and carried out major repairs to the church at a cost of £90k. The work completed to date includes refurbishment of the South porch, significant repair and replacement work to the church roof, and a completely new electrical and lighting system within church.

But, as you know with your own home, there is always something that is next in line for some attention. In our case this is the repair of the **Church Tower**. All of our efforts are now being geared to raising the necessary funds to carry out this work. Latest estimates identify that we will need over £60k to complete this project. Obviously, we will be seeking grants from national and local organisations, but we will have to raise a considerable amount ourselves to achieve our goal.

Our aim within the Friends of St. Mary’s church, taken from our **‘Be a Friend’** leaflet is quoted as - “To raise awareness of the significance of St. Mary’s church and to provide funds to help maintain it for our future generations. This is taken forward through regular and planned social events, church open days and publications.”

Here are some steps that you might take to help us in our aim.

1. **Awareness** - if you have access to a computer, visit our own website to find out more details about the church building along with

all of the information about the Friends of St. Mary's Church organisation.

2. Membership - if you want to be directly involved in Friends, contact any of the officers as detailed below.

Social events - the next two events on our calendar are –

Murder Mystery Evening -

amateur sleuths will be drawn to this event to be held on Saturday, 3rd October, at the Community

Centre; tickets are priced at £8 and this includes a Friend's supper. Again contact any of the officers below to reserve a ticket.

Coffee Morning - the church will be open for this Christmas theme coffee morning to be held on Saturday, 21st November. The admission price of £1 will enable you to see inside our village 'cathedral', survey the stalls for a potential bargain, and enjoy included refreshments from the nearly new 'café counter'.

St. Mary's 'Gold Rush' - this will be your opportunity to help Friend's fund raising and have the added bonus of tidying up your jewellery boxes of all of the odd (from a pair), broken, out of fashion gold items. Collection of items will start in September; so again, contact any of the officers to obtain further information.

To contact the Friends of St. Mary's, ring either Iris on 01509813986, John on 01509815525 or Eric on 01509813061.

The Friend's website address is -

<http://beehive.thisisleicestershire.co.uk/fosm>



SILEBY LAWN TENNIS CLUB

SILEBY TENNIS CLUB NEEDS NEW MEMBERS!

This year we have struggled, sometimes, to put out a full team of six players in our Mens, Ladies and Mixed Doubles Teams.

We need to start building a bigger squad of team players to keep the Leicestershire League teams going in the future.

If team tennis is not for you then, social tennis at club session on Wednesday evenings and Sunday afternoons club is available for all levels of play.

Otherwise adults can hire a key to the grounds and play at any time, dawn till dusk all the year round.

This year, our new Tennis Coach, Jason Roberts, has a lot of activities planned for the Summer Holidays and beyond!

These include: - Holiday Camps and Fun Sessions for age groups 5-9yrs and 10-16yrs where juniors can learn new skills, play games and have fun.

These Holiday sessions will be followed by coaching courses into the autumn.

Coaching for Adults can provided at any time 1 to 1 or small groups.

The Club has four all-weather courts, new 10 years ago and refurbished last year, just waiting to be played on.

So, Come on down, Bin the gym, keep fit the enjoyable way, playing tennis at Sileby!

For further details about coaching contact:-

Jason Roberts 07776 185 394 or email Jason.14@hotmail.co.uk

For other details contact:-

Dave Thompson 01509 812993 or email

silebytennisclub@hotmail.co.uk

or access the club website at

<http://www.leicestershirevillages.com/sileby/tennisclub.html>

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SILEBY PARISH PLAN GROUP

Hi there, my name is Christine and I am part of the Sileby Parish Plan Group (not to be confused with Sileby Parish Council). We were the people who sent out the Questionnaires in 2007. Well, we have had our Launch, back in April, and it was very well attended by Sileby residents, Sileby Parish Council, Charnwood Borough Council, Leicestershire County Council, the Police, the Rural Community Council (without Hazels help we would not be where we are today) and many more groups wanting to help Sileby.

At the Launch Gordon, our Chairman outlined what the outcome of the Questionnaire had brought to our notice and from then many things have happened. (Copies of The Plan were available at the Launch or can be found on the Leicestershire Villages website and click on Sileby Parish Plan).

A Sileby Heritage Group has been formed and an excellent exhibition of "Sileby Past and Present" was organised for Easter. Also planned for the future will be a new Village History Trail.

A Speed Watch Group has been formed by David, and although more people are still needed, Speed Watch will be going ahead in September and October 2009 in various areas in the village. So watch out!! (See notice boards for more details)

A Business Forum has been set up by Heather from the delightful new shop in the High Street, Gift Box and Vanilla Bunny.

With the help of the two schools, Redland and Highgate, we hope to get 20mph signs outside the schools (to slow traffic down even more and make people aware of the children crossing the roads). All they need to do is get their Travel Plan approved by Leicestershire County Council.

I am in the process of finding out how the disabled accesses in the village affect people. So far I have visited the Leonard Cheshire Home, but I also will be going to Homefield College and Dudley Court. If you have any concerns about this matter please let us know (except about the railway access).

Another event that Sileby people would like to see back again is Sileby Gala, so if you would like to help organise this event please contact us.

An Environmental Group is also going to be formed by Darren, from The Green Place, so once more if you would be interested to join the Group then pop along and talk to Darren.

Continued

The very popular Sileby Walks Leaflet was produced by Dave and was launched on January 1st 2009 with over 30 people joining Dave, on one walk to Seagrave, and Rob, on another walk around Cossington Meadows. (Copies can be found in the Library and many Shops in the village)

The Parish Plan Group still need volunteers to help them. If you would like to help with anything please get in touch with Gordon at gord@organicafood.co.uk

I hope you have found what The Parish Plan Group are doing for the Village interesting. We still have a long way to go, but I am sure Sileby will soon be an even better place to live

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Your Letters

Send you letters to the editor. Please include your name and address (not for publication if you wish).

Dear Sir,

How closely did your readers study their council tax demand for 2009/10 when it arrived in March? To remind you Leicester CC had a 2.9% increase, Police 3%, Fire 4%, Charnwood Borough Council 3.5% while Sileby Parish Council had 7.3% increase.

Note that Sileby's increase had double the 'big boys' and follows a whacking 9.4% increase for 2008/9.

If the Council Tax & Rates (document with several sections) is opened up all the relevant information is there, under Sileby the reasons given for their budget variations are listed as:-

- 1 Ongoing employment issues.
- 2 Election Expenses
- 3 Projected rise in utility charges.

Let me add a little more detail o the above: Item 1, refers to staff problems.

In fact 40% of Sileby's Parish Precept goes on wages/pensions, which means only just over half is left to be spent on improvements around the village. Are residents happy that this is the best way to spend their money?

Item 2, this refers to a parish election for a new councillor called in October 2008 because a candidate presumably decided that an election rather than the usually managed co-option method gave him a

better chance of an appointment, was this politically motivated?

The system permits such an election, but in fact it cost the parish £2000-£4000, and in the event the person concerned lost the election. Sileby, of course, lost a considerable sum of money!

Item 3. Utility charges increase need not cost the parish vast sums, the users of the village facilities (hire of the community centre, for example) must expect these rises to be reflected in increased hire charges.

I suggest that when the parish accounts are 'signed off' by external auditors, some villages ask to see the accounts (dates when they may be viewed will be published on parish notice boards) and perhaps consider taking steps to become involved in parish affairs to try to ensure we are getting 'value for money' - at the moment this is questionable.

I hope the publication of this letter will elicit, also, a response from the Parish Council.

Name and address supplied.

Dear Sir,

My child is due to start school in September, I made the application as required in February and May I was told that neither Redlands or Highgate could take my child, despite living within the village. I was told I could appeal and also there was space available in a Loughborough school! I also believe that there were a number of other children that had this predicament.

Surely it is not impossible for the education authority to provide enough school places in the village for the number of children that live here.

The situation has been averted by the addition of a second class being started at Redlands for this year, but will the same situation occur next year?

Pictured below is a view of Sileby Cemetery. Recently a project to photograph every grave was completed. For details of these images contact the Parish Council.

Photo L. Blower.

Name and address supplied.



A message of thanks from Richard Shepherd

I should like to say “Thank you” for the support I received in the County Council Election in June. I am glad to be able to serve as the County Councillor for **Sileby and The Wolds** for another four years.

If you would like to contact me at any time please do so, by telephone, email or letter, whichever is most convenient.

My contact details are:

Telephone 01509 413903

Email richard.shepherd@leics.gov.uk

Home address 73, Leicester Road, Quorn, Leicestershire, LE12 8BA.

I work closely with your Borough Councillors, Roy Brown and Ken Jones. If you are not sure whether a matter is a County or Borough responsibility just contact one of us; we'll pass the message on.

Roy Brown

Telephone 01509 816545

Email cllr.roy.brown@charnwood.gov.uk

Home address 175, Homefield Road, Sileby, Leicestershire, LE12 7TG

Ken Jones

Telephone 01509 812982

Email cllr.ken.jones@charnwood.gov.uk

Home address 151, Charles Street, Sileby, Leicestershire, LE12 7SH

Sileby West is represented by our colleagues Tony Kershaw (County Councillor) and Hilary Fryer and Pauline Ranson (Borough Councillors). Their contact details are:

Tony Kershaw

Telephone 0116 235 1681

Email tony.kershaw@leics.gov.uk

Home address The Ridgeway, 173, Bradgate Road, Anstey, Leicestershire, LE7 7FW

Continued

Hilary Fryer

Telephone 01509 620938

Email cllr.hilary.fryer@charnwood.gov.uk

Home address 7, Warner Street, Barrow upon Soar, Leicestershire,
LE12 8PD

Pauline Ranson

Telephone 01509 416928

Email cllr.pauline.ranson@charnwood.gov.uk

Home address Rose Cottage, 33, South Street, Barrow upon Soar,
Leicestershire, LE12 8LY

Sileby Parish Councillors

Councillor Mrs S Butler	01509 813145
Councillor Mr P Collingswood	01509 816501
Councillor Mrs B A Crick	01509 813335
Councillor Mrs J Harris	01509 813611
Councillor Mrs F Hughes	01509 815173
Councillor Mrs S King	01509 812597
Councillor Mr W King	01509 812597
Councillor Mrs K Machin	01509 814215
Councillor Mr A Shepherdson	01509 813451
Councillor Mrs P Staples	01509 813579
Councillor Mr A Palin	
Councillor Mr W Wise	

Officers

The Parish Clerk can be contacted on 01509 813075, or email
clerk@silebyparishcouncil.org.uk

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