

talk @ Sileby

Village Newsletter

Issue 29 Summer 2011



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Forward

Welcome to the summer 2011 edition of Talk@sileby, this edition sees us back on track in producing 3 issues a year.

The next edition will mark our 30th, a great milestone for us. It is also 10 years since issue 1 was produced in October 2001. If you want to look back every edition is available in electronic format by surfing over to <http://www.sileby-village.co.uk/Talk@Sileby.htm>

The magazine is run by a small team of volunteers but our work would not be possible without contributions from all residents and businesses in the village, so please keep those articles coming in to us.

We are particularly keen to hear from clubs and societies that want to publicise their existence, from Scouts, Guides, Sports Clubs etc. Contact us with your details and we will add you to the list that can be found on page 17.

We have an exceptionally good delivery team, but offers to help deliver are always welcome, if you can spare a few minutes 3 times a year to deliver the magazine then we can give some relief to some of our others who do larger rounds.

As summer has arrived the 2 village schools have recently held their summer fairs, and both were very well attended despite a little bit of rain for Highgate's event.

Enjoy the rest of the summer and any holidays you have planned.

Next Issue will be Winter 2011. Copy and advert deadline is 30th October 2011.

Copies of talk@sileby

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

Please make cheques payable to: Sileby Village Newsletter

Back issues of talk@sileby can be viewed on the internet at www.sileby-village.co.uk

Contacts

Editor:

Dave Palmer, (01509) 816610.
60 Heathcote Drive, Sileby
Email d.r.palmer@talk21.com

Advertising:

Roy Brown/Lionel 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

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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

The talk@Sileby Team

Magazine Co-Ordinator	Roy Brown
Editor	Dave Palmer
Assistant Editor	Caitlin Coady
Secretary	Pat Haswell
Treasurer	Lionel Blower
Societies Co-ordinators	Lionel Blower & Roy Brown
Auditor	Richard Kinton

talk@Sileby

Your community magazine is delivered to every home and business in Sileby; that's about 3,500 addresses.

It is published three times a year: in November just prior to the Christmas lights 'switch on', in Spring around about Easter and in the summer.

We have no political, commercial or religious allegiance and aim to be impartial and independent. We are entirely self funding through advertising revenue.

We are here solely to promote Sileby, its businesses, residents, clubs, societies, associations, schools and churches.

Redlands School Report for the Parish Council April 2011.

Mr Matthew Peet became Headteacher at Redlands at the start of 2007. It wasn't long before Ofsted inspected the school and judged the standard of education that we were providing for the children as 'Satisfactory' (Ofsted uses grades of outstanding, good, satisfactory and inadequate). Since that inspection, we have been working hard to make improvements in everything that we do at Redlands.

We were recently inspected again in March of this year. The Ofsted team were extremely impressed with the standard of education that we provide for our children and upgraded us to a "Good" school. All of the staff were highly praised and the quality of teaching and learning was also deemed to be Good. Ofsted spoke at length to Parents and Carers, who praised the school. Ofsted described us as being at the "centre of the community" - a great compliment. The school has gone from strength to strength as we ensure that our children experience a creative and exciting curriculum. We offer many extra-curricular activities and continue to develop our curriculum as we offer French, music and more sport. We have strong links with the Playgroups in the village and Humphrey Perkins School which allows smooth transitions to and from Redlands.

Our links with the local community and surrounding areas have continued to thrive. Our children have benefited greatly from performing and sharing their learning with members of the community – from our very youngest friends at the local playgroups to our experienced friends at Dudley Court. Our neighbours at Leonard Cheshire Home have visited school to watch our performances of the "Traditional Christmas Story" and "Toad of Toad Hall". Our links with the local churches remain as strong as ever. Reverend Jane Carter and Reverend Richard Hopkins are familiar faces in school. We were very pleased to host the Church Holiday Club last summer and delighted it is returning this year. The children love visiting the churches and always make us proud that they respect the different places of worship.

On a regular basis we take the children into the village to learn about different areas of the curriculum that can be seen in real life.

The whole school will be experiencing the grandeur of Warwick Castle as we embark on one of our theme weeks – this term we are looking at Castles, Magic and Dragons; - Warwick Castle provides the ideal environment for children to fully appreciate the size and scale of such a great building. Our Year 6 children have visited PGL outdoor pursuits centre for their week long residential visit before taking their compulsory end of year SATs tests. The visit gives the children a well earned break from their revision programme as they embark on the many challenging and fun based activities. Each class makes several visits each year. We are always delighted to receive compliments about their good behaviour.

The Friends of Redlands have worked extremely hard to arrange various fund raising and social events over the year. These are enjoyed by parents, children and members of our local community alike. The money raised goes towards enhancing the life of our school children such as a theatre visit at Christmas, improving equipment and providing additional resources for the children in school.

Our children and their families show a very caring response to national and international appeals. We have supported charities such as "Operation Christmas Child", "Comic Relief" and "The Haiti Earthquake Appeal" .

At the start of the year we said goodbye to two of our longest standing members of staff

- Mrs Janet Gorton and Mrs Ann Clark who both retired having served at Redlands for over 30 years. Mrs Sarah Lamble and Miss Samantha James joined our staff and have proved to be a great asset to our team. The number of children joining our school has continued to increase and our number on roll stands at 222. It is expected that 41 more children will join us in September. As a result of these increasing numbers, a new member of staff will be joining us from September to teach in our expanding school.

Our amateur historian Mrs Jennifer Ghent, also our school's Admin Officer, has documented the school's history from the laying of the very first stone to more recent events detailing life at Redlands during the 1960's. She gathered her evidence from the wealth of the many documents that were gathering dust in our archives and had been hidden away for many years. These fascinating documents have now been placed in the County Archives and are available for all to see.

This term the Local Authority have started to replace our leaking roof. They are ensuring that the traditional features of our iconic building are kept. As our pupil numbers are growing - new classrooms are needed. We had a new mobile classroom ready for the start of this year and there are plans for a new building to be added on to the side of school.

Redlands would not be the great place it is without our great children. The staff, from Premises team to the Admin staff, from Teaching staff to Support staff all work incredibly hard to ensure that the children of Sibley Redlands receive not only a good education but also a positive social experience.

The 17 members of our Governing body continue to support school. They all attend almost every meeting and make a very positive contribution. Some very long standing members of the governing body are stepping down and we have several new parent governors who are extremely thoughtful in their important role as 'critical friend'. We were delighted when the recent Ofsted team reported that governance at Redlands is 'outstanding'.

Redlands school is a great place to be for children and staff and it is our aim that we will continue to go from strength to strength.

Gill Moir, Chair of Governors

Since reading the above report at the Annual Parish Meeting – we have received the following from Mrs Josie Bott who has been a Governor at Redlands for well over 20 years.

'Following Redlands' recent 'Good' Ofsted inspection, I feel now is the right time to step down from the Governing Body. I have enjoyed serving as a Governor through good times, and the not so good. I am confident the school will go from strength to strength and consider the present Governing Body is strong and committed and will work hard for the good of the school. I hope to continue to visit Redlands through my work at the Peter Pan Playgroup and the Community Performances.

Best wishes to all **Josie Bott'**

I particularly, would like to give my sincere thanks to Mrs Josie Bott who has been such a great personal support in her role as vice Chair for many years.



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Quorn Barrow Sibley and the Wolds Area Forum

The last meeting of Quorn Barrow Sibley and the Wolds Area Forum was held in Quorn, at St Bartholomews school, on 8th June 2011. 28 people were in attendance and the main item on the agenda, at the request of the previous meeting, was broadband connectivity within the Forum area. Matthew Kempson, from Leicestershire County Council, explained how the County Council is helping local communities within areas which have poor connectivity. The County Council sees improved broadband speed as essential to the delivery of improved public services in the future. Also in attendance were representatives from BT and Openreach who explained that they were working to rollout super-fast broadband but inevitably the high cost of reaching the more rural areas means that is less commercially viable and, therefore, public subsidy is essential., BT were able to describe impending improvements in the Quorn area, thanks to the support of the Barrow Business Forum, and people should notice a difference later this year. All three, the County Council, BT and Openreach were able to answer questions from the floor and people felt that, whether used for business, education or pleasure, they could anticipate a faster service in the future.

The Forum also received an update on the Green Spaces consultation which showed the parts of the Forum area that people had identified, either in person at the last meeting or via the website, that were of importance to them. Many people wanted to protect important local spaces both from the point of view of retaining village identities and for the protection of nature and biodiversity.

Regarding the partial switching off of street lights in Quorn, Sergeant Andy Moscrop was able to report that when compared to the same period in the previous year there appeared to be no discernable change in the number of incidents reported.

After two years as Forum chair, Mr David Slater stood down at the end of the meeting. The Forum thanked him for his hard work over the period. Cllr Mrs Pauline Ranson was elected as Forum chair and Cllr Roy Brown as Forum vice chair for the next two years. The next meeting will be on Wednesday 14th September 2011 at Walton on the Wolds Village Hall.

If you have any suggestions for items that you would like the Forum to discuss please contact Richard Downing, Community Engagement Manager, on 0116 3055823 or email Richard.downing@leics.gov.uk.

See My Ability

As part of National Learning Disability Awareness Week, the Leicestershire Learning Disability Partnership Board has funded a short film called 'See My Ability' which tackles stereotypes head on. The film showcases local people in Leicestershire and what they can do, not their disability.

To watch the video and find out more about the Leicestershire Learning Disability Partnership Board please visit www.betterlives.org.uk

PARISH COUNCILLORS AND OFFICERS

Sileby Parish Council now has a full complement of 15 Councillors; we welcome Roy Brown, Ken Jones and Scott Gunn on to the Council.

Councillor Mr R Brown	01509 816545
Councillor Mr R Butler	01509 814985
Councillor Mr P Collingswood	01509 816501
Councillor Mr B Carr	01509 816230
Councillor Mrs B Crick	01509 813335
Councillor Mrs J Gratton	01509 814861
Councillor Mr S Gunn	01509 815665
Councillor Mrs J Harris	01509 813611
Councillor Mrs F Hughes	01509 815173
Councillor Mr K Jones	01509 812982
Councillor Mrs K Machin	01509 814215
Councillor Mr A Paling	01509 812247
Councillor Mr A Shepherdson	01509 813451
Councillor Mr B Singleton	01509 815293
Councillor Mr W Wise	01509 813075

Officers

Mrs R Richardson	Clerk
Mrs J Lovatt	Assistant to Clerk
Tel: 01509 813075	Office Hours 10.00 am – 12 noon : Monday to Friday

Other Representatives

Charnwood Borough council

Councillor Mr R Brown	01509 816545
Councillor Mr A Paling	07863937195

County Council

Councillor Mr R Shepherd	01509 413903
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Member of Parliament

Nicky Morgan MP	01509 262723
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Pictured are R. Brown and A Paling
along with Nicky Morgan MP



That Green Place – I wonder what goes on there?

Well, the simple answer to that is – loads of things, all of them green, sustainable and eco-friendly.

It is the home of Complete Wasters, the brain-child of Darren Potter and Deborah Parker - a couple who care deeply about the environment and are ardent re-cyclers.

In 1996 they were given the opportunity to clean up the site after a summer concert (now called Summer Sundae Weekender) at the De Montfort Hall – and a business idea was born – could they do more of this – provide a greener recycling service for events in the Summer, and maybe look at recycling for businesses too? At the heart of their business plan was the intention to use all profits to make a difference – to contribute to projects which improve the environment, and make life better for everyone, especially disadvantaged people. Could they make this work?

The answer was a resounding Yes ! Initially working from home, more space was soon a priority and the business moved first into rooms at Fosse Neighbourhood Centre in Leicester before finally finding its way to Sileby in 2004

A recycling service for businesses and events became the core of the young business – and quickly lead to other projects. New legislation meant that old computers became classed as Hazardous Waste – Complete Wasters obtained a licence from the Environment Agency to handle Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE). Computer equipment which is suitable for re-use is completely refurbished before being made available for the general public to buy. Items unsuitable for re-use are sent for recycling in the UK. Over 4,000 have been refurbished since 1996. The project teaches IT Skills to volunteers and trainee and donates some refurbished computer equipment to schools across Africa and Hungary and worthy causes in the UK.

Recycling for Summer Sundae Weekender has become part of a regular program of around 15 annual events including, Proms Concerts in the grounds of stately homes and folk and pop festivals. Thanks mainly to Complete Wasters Summer Sundae has received National Greener Festival Awards.

Living in Sileby Deborah and Darren saw the potential in the old Gas Offices; having a large established (though now overgrown) garden with a pond and a polytunnel, and plenty of office space and outbuildings it was ideally suited to their purposes. Here was the opportunity to realise their hopes for an area where they could demonstrate good eco-friendly horticultural practises – more space for the computer shop – a shop and a small café.

With the help of a Shires (County Council) Grant and a grant from B&Q the buildings were refurbished with the emphasis being on using reclaimed materials as far as possible, and ensuring that all new materials came from sustainable sources. Darren and Deborah receive no regular funding for their activities, and most refurbishment has been carried out using donated materials and profits from Complete Wasters.

The most recent improvement has been the installation of solar panels on the roof – it is estimated that these should produce a third of the building's electricity requirements, and on sunny days will be sending spare green electricity back to the grid. All water from the roof is harvested for the garden and the building is heated by wood-burning stoves

using waste wood.

In December 2005 The Green Place opened its doors – glowing wood fires and the smell of home cooking welcome the visitor; browse the Green Gift Shop – you will find a wide selection of goods, all carefully chosen to reflect as far as possible the principles of Fair-trade and sustainability. Handmade goods come from all corners of the earth – and just around the corner; there are Ecover products, wind up torches, bamboo socks, blankets made from plastic bottles! Recycled glass lamps, Fairtrade bags and hand-made soap –the list is endless. Since the arrival of baby Emily baby products have been added to the range!

And so to the café for a healthy snack, or Fairtrade coffee and cake.

Sit on the comfy sofa by the fire. There's plenty to read, or maybe you will buy a second-hand book from the bookcase.

Then perhaps a stroll in the garden – sit in the shade and listen to the birdsong - maybe buy a plant. On Saturdays Cesca of "Corner Plot" in Thurmaston runs a stall selling organic fruit and vegetables, eggs and honey – all locally produced. She also displays her woven willow baskets – and holds occasional workshops in willow weaving.

So much going on – so who is doing it all ? Well, Darren and Deborah, two other regular staff members – and an army of volunteers.

From time they have the help of trainees from "New Deal", an organisation which helps the long-term unemployed back into the workplace.

Volunteers come from all walks of life but with a common aim - to put something back into society and the environment. There are material benefits too – volunteers can earn points towards the purchase of a refurbished computer – and at outdoor events there can be Music While You Work – pop, folk or classical, depending on the event!

Since the formation of the business Complete Wasters has refurbished over 4,000 computers, recycled tonnes of office waste, cans and bottles and tidied up after 200 outdoor events collecting everything from plastic cups and beer cans to champagne bottles and dining table. Not a picnic table - a proper dining table. They have also planted 1,500 trees in The National Forest and local schools, as well as 250 in an RSPB re-forestation project in Sumatra.

The Green Place hosts Plant Swap and Craft days – provides an exciting venue for children's parties (with a yurt for the food and shelter from the rain or hot sun) – and recently the garden was used for an informal wedding reception.

Darren, Deborah and the team are committed to environmentally friendly practises – but they do not give their visitors the hard sell. If you want to know more about being Greener they can offer you all the information you need – and there are plenty of leaflets in the shop.

If they cannot answer your query, they almost certainly know a man who can.

Walk up the drive – enjoy the birdsong – and see for yourself. Until December the shop, café, computer shop and gardens will be open Wednesday to Saturday, 10 a.m. 'till 4 p.m.

For more information see their advertisement in this magazine, or browse their website <http://www.completewasters.co.uk>

Also see out advertisement on page 12.



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Cars In Sibley

It seems like I have the wrong edition of the Highway Code in my household, everyone else seems to have one that says double yellow lines are there to provide a convenient place to park.



Swan Street.



The Banks



High Street

SILEBY SCARECROW COMPETITION - 2011

The Sileby Scarecrow Competition took place on the weekend of 25th and 26th June, which proved to be a popular event with a total of 31 entries. 14 were entered in the Adult Section and 17 in the Junior Section. The scarecrows were displayed throughout the village and the standard was deemed by the judges, Lionel and Rosemary Blower, to be extremely high. All those who entered the competition are to be congratulated and the amount of time and considerable effort put into the exhibits is to be commended. During their tour of the village a photograph was taken of each scarecrow which subsequently facilitated the comparison of the entries. The winners were:-

Adult	First	Bertie Bassett	Mandy Belshaw, Kendal Road
	Second	Humpty Dumpty	John B W Smith, Barrow Road
	Third	Man with a case	Jez Chapman, Seagrave Road
	Fourth	Dorothy	Inspirations, High Street
Junior	First	Lady Gaga World Tour	Tom, Ella & Joe Astill, Seagrave Rd
	Second	Mrs Mopp	Peter Pan Play Group, Quaker Rd
	Third	Herbert Hedge Trimmer	Kirstie Medcroft, Gibson Road
	Fourth	Tightrope Walker	Olivia Belshaw, Kendal Road

Bertie Bassett, first place Adult.

Lady Gaga, First place Junior.





Mrs. Mopp, second place Junior

Humpty Dumpty, second place Adult



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SILEBY CEMETERY

Several people have enquired as to why there are two chapels in Sileby Cemetery.

When the cemetery was originally laid out in the late 1870s it was effectively divided in two by a central pathway. To the right of the pathway is the Consecrated Section whilst to the left is the Non-Consecrated Section.

In turn, each section is divided by a further pathway.

Both the Consecrated and Non-Consecrated Sections are split into parts A, B and C although the split between each section is not readily apparent and, over the years, grave markers have either been moved or vanished completely.

When originally laid out there were 679 Consecrated plots and 657 Non-Consecrated. As the graveyard filled up further land was obtained for additions to Sections B and C and for new Sections D and E giving a further 692 plots with room to expand when necessary.

There is nothing to distinguish between Consecrated and Non-Consecrated plots in these sections.

The reason there are two chapels is that the local builder was instructed to build one for the Consecrated Section and one for the Non Consecrated Section.

It was reported in an earlier issue of talk@sileby that a survey of Sileby Cemetery had been carried out for the Parish Council. The subsequent information was placed on the Internet and it is interesting that as well as providing a useful reference tool enquiries have been made for photographs and further information from as far afield as Australia.



Sileby Clubs and Societies.

This is a free service open to all organisations in and around the village for providing contact details.

For inclusion here contact Roy Brown by email on roy-b@btinternet.com

1st Sileby Rainbows (5-6 year old girls) Contact: Mrs C. Raffan

Meet: Sileby Community Centre Tuesday Evenings 6.20 – 7.20

1st Sileby Brownies (7-10 year old girls) Contact: Mrs E. Pilling

Meet: Redlands Com. Primary School Thursday Evenings 6.00 – 7.30

2nd Sileby Rainbows (5-6 year old girls) Contact: Miss R. Voss

Meet: Methodist Church Rooms Monday Evenings 6.00 – 7.00

2nd Sileby Brownies (7-10 year old girls)

Sileby Guides (10- 14 year olds) Contact: Mrs S. Freeman

Meet: Redlands Com. Primary School Monday evenings 7.00 – 8.30

For all groups contact Rachael Voss on vossrachael@googlemail.com

Please be aware we do have waiting lists – so contact us as early as possible.

Sileby Photography Society. Contact: Lionel Blower

Meet: Sileby Community Centre Monday Evenings 7.30.

Sileby Bowling Club Springfield Road

Contact Bron Coleman 01509 814081 or Alvyn Muggleton 01509 812874

Sileby Gardening Gnomes Chairman – Roy Brown, 175 Homefield Rd Sileby, LE12 7TG

Telephone 01509 816545 e-mail roy-b@btconnect.com Secretary – Gill Brown details as above.

Sileby Tennis Club. Dave on 01509 812993 or Wendy on 01509 812692

Attention Clubs & Societies!

Starting this issue we are including a directory of Clubs & societies; make sure you don't miss out!

Email Roy Brown: roy-b@btconnect.com

or

Lionel Blower: ltbrib@btinternet.com

SILEBY REDLANDS COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL PLAN **PHENOMENAL FUNDRAISING FOR 2011**

Friends of Redlands, the Parent Teachers Association for the school, are planning lots of events, including "Phenomenal Fireworks", to raise funds for the school and students during 2011.

They have set themselves a target to raise £7000.00 to purchase outdoor play equipment for the children to enjoy. In order to help raise funds for the equipment there are several events planned for the summer and autumn.

On the 2nd of July 2011 the school held its annual Summer Fair and this year the students performed the "Redlands Got Talent" show which featured the winning acts from this activity which was held earlier in the year.

On returning from the summer break a Families on the Field day is planned for Saturday 10th September which will be a picnic and games event for the whole school to welcome new parents and children joining the school in the reception year.

In the autumn Friends of Redlands have planned their very first fireworks display and bonfire at the school to be held on Friday 4th November 2011. The display will be produced by Phenomenal Fireworks, a professional pyrotechnic company and one of the UK's leading creators of beautiful and spectacular firework displays. There will be lots of stalls and refreshments to make it a thoroughly entertaining evening for the whole village. Further details and ticket information is available by email to friendsofredlands@live.co.uk

Other events planned include a Rummage Sale on Saturday 8th October, the annual Winter Fair on 25th November and Christmas Bingo Evening on 14th December 2011. Details for all events will be posted on the following websites
<http://happeningincharnwood.co.uk/sileby>
<http://www.leicestershirevillages.com/sileby/local-events>
<http://www.sileby-village.co.uk>

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It seems like many of you are not happy with the new opening hours of the Nat West bank in Sileby, well you are not alone and Nicky Morgan and the Parish Council have both written to Nat West bank to complain. We reproduce both letters here.

OPENING TIMES – SILEBY BRANCH

Further to my letter dated 31 August 2010 re the opening times of the branch in the village I am writing on behalf of Sileby Parish Council to express how upset and angry residents are, both in the village and outside the village, at the current limited opening times. My Assistant has experienced a 20 minute wait before being served and the queue of people trailed outside onto the footpath!

During week commencing 18 April it was only open on the Monday and Tuesday – closed Good Friday. Week commencing 25 April – only open for one day ie 26 April and then week commencing 2 May, only open for two days. This really is not acceptable as it is unfair to expect people, especially the elderly, to commute to another branch.

NatWest's Customer Charter quotes that you have kept branches open for longer and you have achieved your objective to serve the majority of people within five minutes – but unfortunately this is not the case at your branch here in Sileby.

We feel that NatWest is not offering the service advertised as aiming to be 'Britain's most Helpful Bank'.

Dear Mr Hester,

Re: Natwest Bank, 5 Barrow Rd, Sileby, Leicestershire LE12 7LS

I write to ask you to reconsider the proposed reduction in opening hours for this branch.

I understand from constituents in the Sileby area that the Natwest Branch in the village is due to reduce its hours from 8 November 2010. Currently, the branch is open Monday to Friday 9am to 4.30pm, but from November it will only be open 10am to 2pm on Monday, Tuesday and Friday. If this change is to be made then I find it regrettable that I was not informed about this directly by RBS as I have been when changes are proposed to branches of other banks or building societies locally.

The branch is popular with both residents and businesses alike in this thriving village and indeed the surrounding villages. Should the bank not be open daily, businesses will find they have to store cash and cheques on their premises for a longer period, causing issues of security. I am therefore most concerned that this change of hours will cause customers to move to other banks and I will then have to write to you again in a few months time to urge you not to close the branch.

Please could you reconsider the position and let me have an explanation for this decision.

Yours sincerely,

Nicky Morgan MP



Your Letters

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

Dear talk @ sibley

I must write to this page about the Stange Road development. Yes we were successful as all of the residents concerned united and we all voiced our opinion attended the council meetings some even sent flyers round (all credit to them) against the development, not Nick Morgan, How dare she acknowledge and seek accreditation on what we the residents have done. I wrote to her when we were in full swing of the objection only to find that she was none committal on the grounds that she lets the council decide. What a turn around in talk @ sibley to even comment on congratulations . Well I for one will not be voting for her this time round as I expect others who have been duped by these short sighted politicians who have short memories, once again saying they are the voice of the people, Nicky not on this occasion you sat on the fence once to often for me

Eddie Palethorpe resident for 27 years

Please keep sending in your letters.

In days gone by, before the age of the internet, YouTube and Facebook writing to your local magazine, it was the best way to get you views aired.

Email — d.r.palmer@talk21.com

SILEBY PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

Another successful season of the Sileby Photographic Society has drawn to a close and it is pleasing to announce that during the year some of the members have gained awards for their entries in Regional, National and International Exhibitions. Two of our members are also members of the Royal Photographic Society and regularly attend their regional meetings.

During the season there has been an interesting and varied programme of Lectures by renowned photographers, competitions to suit different categories of members, social events and the Annual, week-long, Exhibition held in October which again drew in a good attendance at the Community Centre.

It is pleasing to report that whilst many organisations are experiencing a decline in membership the Sileby Photographic Society continues to prosper with an enthusiastic membership and no shortage of volunteers to assist in the running of this successful Society.

Following the success of the Society's first DVD 'Sileby – then and now', a few copies of which are still available, a second DVD has been produced in conjunction with the Great Central Railway based in Loughborough. This is entitled 'The Great Central Railway – the story so far'. This was originally shown at the Annual Exhibition in 2007 and portrays the progress and development of the county's premier attraction on our doorstep from its humble beginnings in 1969 to the present day. The new DVD has been extended and brought up to date to include developments since 2007.

As a follow-up to the first Sileby DVD, work is now progressing to produce a second edition thanks to the many photographs which have since been produced from members of the public, in particular Mr and Mrs Carvill. This should be available later in the year.

Copies of both DVDs are available from Lionel Blower on 01509 816287. 'Sileby – then and now' costs £6.00, 'The Great Central Railway – the story so far' is £9.00 which includes a contribution towards the railway.

The new season of meetings starts with a Barbecue at Meadow View Farm on Monday, 22nd August followed by the regular meetings at the Community Centre as shown below.

Sept 5	Royal Photographic Society Nature Slides	
Sept 12	Thematic Competition – Panels of 4 on any subject	
Sept 19	"Street Photography from Here to Hiroshima"	Nigel Ward
Oct 3	"Cuba"	Brian Davis
Oct 10	Annual Twelve-shot Challenge Competition	Judge: Mike Frost
Oct 17-22	Annual Exhibition	Judge: Rob Palmer
Oct 31	"Out and About"	Bill Hall
Nov 7	Midland Counties Photographic Federation Portfolio	
Nov 14	"A Sporting Chance"	Digital show by David White
Nov 21	Fourth Round of the Quarterly Competition	Judge: Chris Baldwin
Nov 28	"South Africa"	Digital Show by Gianpiero Ferrari
Dec 5	"Coasting South"	Peter and Eileen Crichton
Dec 12	"More Imaginations"	Graham Heywood
Dec 19	Pictures and Pies	



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BARBERS SHOPS IN SILEBY

Phil Gilbert

The photograph in the Spring 2011 Talk @ Sileby of the 1947 Football team which included both my father Albert and uncle Fred (Dakin), and looking at their “Fred Astair” type hairstyles tweaked my memory of the Gentleman’s Barber’s Shops of Sileby of that era. There were two I can remember as a youngster – I am now 63 - there was Buswells – I do not know his first name – and Frank’s – do not know his surname. Both were “practicing” their trade in the 1950’s and early 1960’s and with both of them the short back & sides and an over generous dressing of Brylcreem was virtually compulsory. We forget that in those days it was very much “you’ll have what you get”

Buswell’s was in High Street, next one lower down to where the Dentist is now, but what was interesting about his business was that he also sold Fishing tackle. In his window he had the odd rod, reel, line, float etc **but he also sold maggots** ! I remember when I was about 12 going through the open front door there was a door to the left into the barbers shop and a counter in front of you from where you could see him inflicting his short back and sides. He would normally see you – come to you at his earliest convenience, which was usually straight away – and with maggot tin in hand I would ask for half a pint of maggots. He would duly go to his fridge, dispense the maggots and return to continue dispensing his short back and sides – how times have changed. One Christmas I told my parents I wanted a Rudge Spinning Rod for Christmas, he had one in his window – but just before my parents went to buy it he sold it. Although it was only about a week before Christmas he ordered another one for me which arrived on Christmas Eve – old fashioned service for you.

Frank’s Barbers shop was tucked away out of sight in an alley by the side of the Futurist Cinema which is now the Boots Chemist in Swan Street – later he moved to a single storey wooden establishment set back, on the same side, just the other side of the Brook – this is still there now displaying “Kitchen & Wardrobe Centre”. I seem to remember that he did not do the amount of village trade that Buswell did because his income was supplemented by a contract with Ratcliffe College – to administer short back & sides to the schoolboys.

But “the times they were a changing” and rumours started spreading of a “new type of Barber” who could do a “Boston” and “Blowave” - **you could now have what you asked for** - he was called Nando (Morelli) and plied his trade at the end of North Street in Barrow – he has only recently retired from his salon in Birstall. Then Marios opened on the Banks and the haircut revolution in Sileby had begun.

Since writing this my mother - aged 90 - has told me of two more Barbers in Sileby that were before my time. One by the name of Wormleighton was on the left at the bottom of Seagrave Road before Lawson Ward’s Shoe factory and Barradel’s which she thinks was where the Bakery Shop is next to the opticians in King Street. Does anyone remember any more ?

Sibley business makes national success

Sunrise Poultry Farms Ltd was formed in 1971 by the late Tony Crawley from what was originally his hobby of chicken rearing. In those early years Tony also worked full time night shifts for Rolls Royce as a nuclear physicist.



Recent years have seen the control of the business pass to sons Phillip and Ady Crawley who have continued Tony's policy of ongoing reinvestment which can be seen in the addition of more Free Range and Organic egg production. There are Sunrise farms at Walton, Seagrave and Six Hills and further afield in Norfolk.



A series of initiatives involving wildlife conservation and the establishment of tree plantations are in place on the Free Range farms. These are part of the company's Bio-diversity Action Plan and are to enhance the grassland and hedgerows for the hens. Wildlife is encouraged and some less common species are thriving already.

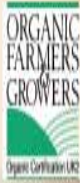
Wherever possible the company prefers to trade with other local business and services and is a keen supporter of activities within the village.

In the early years part time delivery vehicles served local business across Leicestershire. These days larger vehicles deliver eggs across most of England to major retailers and foodservice distributors but a local service is still provided and includes Costcutter on Barrow Rd, Busy Bees on Heathcote, Bradleys in Mountsorrel and Quorn and Woodcock Farm Shop in Rothley. Plus a number of local cafés and bakers etc.

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As part of the conservation activities at the farm this Owl nest box is now occupied.

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or visit our website at :- www.leicestershirevillages.com/sibley/tennisclub

One of our editorial committee and parish councillor, Ken Jones, has a piece of music that has words written by Mrs. L. Jones and music by Mr. T. Preston. We know who Mrs L. Jones is but does anybody know who Mr. T. Preston was, is there a member of his family still in Sibleby?

If you have any information we would love to hear from you at Talk@Sibley.

We reproduce the piece here.

PRICE 1d.

Lines on the Zeppelin Raid, Jan. 31st, 1918.

Preston.

Words by Mrs. L. Jones, Sibleby. Music by Mr. T. Preston, Sibleby.

The day was end-ed: o'er the earth The peaceful night had crept,
And toil-worn hands were rest-ing, While lit-tle chil-dren slept.

A monster glided through the air
A huge, ungaily shape;
Freighted with death for hapless ones
Which they could not escape.

A Zeppelin! the cry went forth
And even as 'twas heard,
Bomb followed bomb, from murderous
The stoutest heart was silenced. [hands:]

Hovering o'erhead like birds of prey,
The Huns with fiendish haste,
Hurled forth with glen, their deadly store,
And hearth, and home laid waste.

A babe, killed in its mother's arms,
Two lovers, hand in hand;

A bride and groom just newly wed,
A truly martyred hand,
A lady too, on mission work,
God's messenger of grace:
Was killed while speaking, now she serves
Her Master face to face.

Can we such ruthless deeds condone?
No; rather will we go
To the last man: fired with new zeal
And fight the treacherous foe.

Forright is might, and God will help
Our cause to win the day,
May free born Britons never live
To cringe 'neath German sway.

L. JONES, Cossington Road, Sibleby.

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