

talk @ Sileby

Village Newsletter

Issue 30 Winter 2011

www.sileby-village.co.uk





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It is 10 years since a Committee was formed to publish a village magazine in Sileby and with this issue we have reached Number 30. Three members of the original Committee are still playing an active part in the production of the magazine and for the past year these have been joined by several new members. I would like to take this opportunity to thank those who have helped on the Committee during those 10 years and also the team of distributors who ensure that every household, nearly 3500, receives its magazine promptly.

After problems with production during 2010 we effectively started again and the three magazines produced – 27-28-29 – each show a gradual improvement.

We have been particularly encouraged and extremely grateful for the response of our advertisers and this has allowed us to produce the magazine in colour. The content of the magazines has included features about the village but the editorial team would always appreciate more articles from the various organisations in the village.

The Accounts for the past year are included on page 5 of this issue and show that after a slow start the magazine is now more than covering its costs, a trend which continues with Issue 30.

Christmas will soon be upon us and the festive lights in the High Street and Martin's Walk will be switched on in early December.

The next issue will be produce in time for Easter 2012 (2nd weekend in April) so please let the Editor have some articles no later than 28th February.

Next Issue will be Easter 2012. Copy and advert deadline is 28th February 2012.

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

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Lional Blower

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262020

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

Quarter Page £30	Half Page £50	Full Page £80
Inside front/inside back cover £105.00	Back cover £135.00	
10% discount for booking and paying for three insertions in advance		
These prices are per issue		

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

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.

Front Cover Picture: 73 & 73a King Street



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Statement of Accounts 11.1.2010 to 30.09.2011

Receipts

Balance c/forward Income	1660.06
From Advertisers	1704.00

3364.06

Payments

Printing—Issue 27	572.00
Printing—Issue 28	630.00
Printing—Issue 29	<u>639.00</u>
	1841.00
Balance in Hand	1523.06

3364.06

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with applicable accounting standards. The committee acknowledges their responsibility under the constitution for keeping proper accounting records for preparing accounts.

Based on my work as appointed internal auditor nothing has come to my attention to refute the committees' confirmation that the above financial statement has been properly prepared from the accounting records for the year ended 30 September 2011 and is therefore a true record of all transactions during that period.

R K Kinton AIB (ret'd)

TO THE KAISER

From a book of rhymes written by Laura Jones of Sileby during the First World War and sold in aid of the Red Cross.

This war you wage with might and main
Reckless of human life
What will you profit in lasting gain?
Out of this awful strife

Homes left bare and infants slain
Famine through all the land
Death with greater horrors in train
While you stand sword in hand

Proudly you claim help from God
He will avenge his own
He will uphold and strengthen the rod
Of justice and right alone

Our men have gone to fight the fight
Of honour and country dear
Strong in the cause of truth and right
And duty that stands out clear

We who are left to watch and wait
Read of your deeds and shame
And thrill with horror to learn too late
Of evils too vile to name

Your hands are dyed with orphan's blood
Whose tears and cries were vain
Your soldiers killed them as they stood
On you remains the stain

They carried out your stern command
And did it to their cost
As you will shortly understand
When your cause is lost

And when you cringe and merely crave
As you will in your turn
Boldly aside your pleas we'll wave
Your cries with pity spurn

For those we mourn slain in their prime
And those in youth laid low
Have left a void that through all time
Our hearts will ever know

Yet still the brave go out to meet
Thee, false and treacherous foe
God grant us victory complete
And lasting peace bestow

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Quorn, Barrow, Sileby and the Wolds Area Forum

The last meeting of the Area Forum was held in Quorn on 8th June 2011. The main item on the agenda was the speed and quality of broadband provision in the Forum area and had come about as a result of requests from people living in the Forum area. The meeting heard presentations from Matthew Kempson of the County Council and Paul Bimson from BT and Julian Pratt from Openreach. Members of the Forum asked questions and received feedback of imminent plans to improve the infra-structure in Quorn.

The Forum was also updated on policing issues and received some feedback on the Green Spaces consultation and progress with the projects that had been supported by the Area Forum's budget.

The next meeting of the Forum will be held at Walton on the Wolds Village Hall (Loughborough Road LE12 7EQ) on **Wednesday 14th September 2011**. The main item on the agenda will be Flooding and extreme weather. This will provide an opportunity to hear about the work of the Resilience Forum and, importantly, in the event of heavy rainfall and flooding, to consider whether and how prepared villages in the Forum area are to work together when the need arises. This will be the first meeting to be chaired by the Forum's new Chair, Cllr Pauline Ranson.

The Forum will also hear about the arrangements for running Area Forum budget meetings later in the year. This Forum has been allocated a sum of £12,500 for local people to decide how to apportion in line with the needs and priorities of the local area. The decisions will be made by local residents at a special meeting to be held on **Wednesday 16th November 2011** at Humphrey Perkins High School in Barrow upon Soar. So if at all possible please attend the Area Forum meeting on 14th September to hear more about how the process will work.

For further information please contact Paul Goodman, Community Engagement Officer on 0116 3058015 or email paul.goodman@leics.gov.uk.

Doctor celebrates twenty years in Sileby

In October the "Friends of Highgate Surgery", Sileby held a special event at St Gregory's social centre in Sileby with over eighty invited guests.

It was to celebrate Dr. M.K. Lakhani being a G.P. at the Highgate Medical Centre for twenty years.

Dr. Lakhani was presented with a special framed certificate by Mrs. Sheila Breed, Chairperson of the "Friends".

Mrs Breed paid tribute to Dr. Lakhani for being a caring and listening doctor and also told of the many roles he has played in the medical world. She then presented Mrs. M. Lakhani with a bouquet of flowers.

Also paying tribute to Dr. Lakhani was Mr. Roy Brown, past Mayor of Charnwood, a Sileby Parish and Charnwood Borough Councillor.

Dr. Lakhani said how he has enjoyed his time in Sileby and this was due to the support of his wife, May, and their children, and all of his staff at the surgery. He also said that he is looking forward to the next twenty years!

Look out for the Group at the Victorian Market at the Christmas Lights Switch-on. Any patient of Dr. Lakhani is welcome to join the Group to help raise funds for much needed equipment for the surgery.

SILEBY TENNIS CLUB

COME ON SILEBY AND SUPPORT
YOUR LOCAL CLUB!

Sileby Tennis Club boasts four All-weather courts and play is available throughout the year. Through the Winter play is on Sunday afternoons and the fee from October - March is only £34 for Adults and £20 for Juniors OR "Pay and Play" for £3 a session on Sunday afternoons only.

The Club also has teams in the Leicestershire League but are always looking for more members to play both socially and in the teams. Coaching also takes place on a Wednesday afternoon at 4.15pm with Club Coach Steve, or can be booked for a time to suit you. The photo shows finalists at this year's Club Championships.



MODEL RAILWAY SHOW

Syston Model Railway Society, which is based at the Old School, Thurmaston, is holding its 15th annual Model Railway Show on the 18th and 19th February 2012. As usual there will be an array of working layouts and trade support. The exhibits range from a tiny T gauge layout at a scale of 1:600, to large O gauge exhibits.

The event takes place at Sileby Community Centre, High Street, Sileby, from 10am until 16:30pm. In this difficult financial climate, we have decided to hold our admission prices for the ninth year. Admission will be £3 for adults and £2.50 for concessions and unaccompanied children (under 14). Accompanied children are admitted FREE.

More details will be found on our website www.systonmrs.org.uk or by email on systonmrs@hotmail.com.

The full list of exhibits is:

Nevermoor (Z gauge), T Gauge, Highley Unlikely, Bishop Wearburn and Allston (all N Gauge), Cromer, Brixworth, Rowthorne and Mill Lane TMD (all OO Gauge), Hazelman Road, Bedford Road TMD and Summit Colliery (all O Gauge).

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Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme, my experience

Caitlin Coady

In July, I completed my Silver Duke of Edinburgh (DofE) qualifier expedition. The DofE award system is popular throughout the UK for its combination of volunteering, physical exercise and the opportunity to learn new skills. Having achieved my Bronze award at the end of year 10, I decided to move on to the Silver award. This differs from the Bronze level in that its timeframes for each section are longer; the expedition, instead of being two days walking and one night camping, extends at Silver to three days walking and two nights camping.

Monday 4th July- The day before my expedition starts. As I type this sitting upstairs in my room, my rucksack is ready and packed. In the same cavernous space which carried my dad's equipment during his Ten Tors expedition thirty years ago, sit my clothes, food and other essentials that will be the only reminder of civilisation for the next three days. It already weighs what feels like a tonne, but tomorrow more will be added- my group have already decided who is carrying what equipment, and I have been allocated one of the Trangia stoves, the poles and pegs of two tents and the inner cover of the two-man in which I will be sleeping. The route cards, meticulously planned in April and all details now forgotten (we can just about remember that we are walking somewhere on the Yorkshire moors around Ingleborough), and maps are being kept 'safely' by one of my friends-needless to say she will receive several texts reminding her not to leave them behind! I feel slightly nervous about the expedition; on my Bronze, I had the joyful experience of dealing with a teenager turning into a toddler at the sight of a hill, and of pulling one of my friends out of a bog that she was sure 'was only slightly soggy'. Fingers crossed that no-one will lose their shoes in a bog this time around!

Tuesday 5th July- Woke up bright and early this morning (6 o'clock!) in order to be at school ready to leave for Yorkshire at half past seven. I dragged on my top and walking trousers rather reluctantly- they made what had previously been far away and almost dream-like suddenly seem real and inescapable. Having wolfed down breakfast (scrambled eggs and baked beans), I packed my toothbrush and my lunch for that day, before finally leaving for school at 7.

The journey to Yorkshire lasts 3 hours thanks to the fact that the coach driver's GPS takes us on a scenic rather than direct route. At last we arrive in Ingleton, our start and finish point for the expedition. Unfortunately, just as my group's ready to leave the buckle on one of my friends' waistbands snaps- problem no. 1 and we're not even walking yet! Luckily that's the only thing that goes wrong (we don't even get lost). As long as the cool but bright weather continues, we'll be fine.

Wednesday 6th July- I spoke too soon. It rained last night, so our tents (which we have to pack away into our rucksacks) are soaked. My friend Charlotte and I shake the outer part of our tent to remove most of the dampness and then fold it up. I create a waterproof layer from the plastic bags containing my cutlery and toiletries to protect my clean clothes and pyjamas from getting wet, then put the tent and a Trangia stove on top, followed by my lunch and waterproofs. However, I soon need to get the waterproofs out, as almost immediately the skies decide to open. It is amazing how quickly supposedly 'waterproof' clothes stop being waterproof; after 40 minutes of being on a moor in rain, all of our waterproofs are failing (admittedly the rain is virtually horizontal and so heavy that you can barely see 200 metres ahead). Thankfully all of our boots are

holding out so far.

At 2 o'clock it finally dries up so we decide to have lunch on some rather incredible rock formations by the road, and Ellie uses the opportunity to take some pictures of footpath erosion which we will be able to use in our presentation later. We are all sick to death of wearing waterproofs which don't even work, and so take them off. With the sun out the temperature has soared, so Charlotte, Ellie and I convert our trousers into shorts. Three hours of decent walking follows; we are all in relatively high spirits, despite a couple of blisters starting to form.

Somehow, I just knew that the good weather wouldn't last. Roughly half an hour from our campsite, we notice clouds rolling in and before we can react we yet again find ourselves in a deluge. It is when we notice forked lightning hitting the tops of the hills around us that we start to worry a bit; I am fine with sheet lightning, but having just studied electricity at school I am very wary of the forked variety. Not wanting to become any wetter, but knowing that opening our rucksacks to get waterproofs out would soak the rest of our kit, we make a run for the campsite, arriving in fifteen minutes. It is still too wet to put tents up, so all seven of us huddle in the washroom. Eventually the storm passes over and we are able to put our tents up. Some of the staff members at the site are getting worried; a group of girls who should have been there by now have still not returned, and there is now a substantial amount of low cloud on the hills.

It's now eight o'clock and luckily the missing group have returned, soggy and rather bedraggled but otherwise fine.

Thursday 7th July - The last day of our expedition, and the weather is still utterly miserable. We are being battered with near gale force winds, and once again the rain is torrential (this is becoming rather boring by now!) Luckily, the DofE team of assessors have decided that due to the wind and poor visibility it is too dangerous to send us up Ingleborough (one of the Three Peaks) and so we have to re-plan our route around the base. This means that our route is lengthened to 10 miles, although admittedly it is mostly flat. With the finish time having been moved to two o'clock, my group set off at the ungodly hour of six in the morning, having woken up at four. Unsurprisingly, tempers are running a little short, with someone nearly refusing to walk any further unless she was shown that the girl reading the map (Ellie, who is the best in our team at navigation) knows exactly where we are. Needless to say, this results in a rather frosty, awkward silence between these two for the rest of that leg (Ellie won the argument), despite many efforts from the rest of us to strike up a conversation. I am beginning to think that not wearing waterproof trousers is a bad idea in the middle of a rain storm- my legs, which are covered in numerous rainwater rivulets, are funnelling the water into my socks and consequently my boots. Charlotte is far worse off as the waterproof coat on her boots has failed. As we are walking, we can all hear a faint squelching sound.

Thankfully, our last day is nowhere near as long as the other two and by one o'clock we can see the finish point in the town of Ingleton. On my Bronze we finished second-last due to two slow, unfit team members who insisted on a break every thirty minutes; on Silver, we finished second, beaten by another team who are known in my year for practically running their DofE expeditions – they arrived five minutes before us.

After my Silver, I decided to stop doing this Award. Much as I love getting soaked to the skin while trying to light methylated spirits in a Trangia, on Silver I found that the gain (mostly UCAS points) was outweighed by the pain of the early stages of trench foot I developed thanks to my damp socks. My sister is now frequently calling me a 'weakling' because I am not doing Gold- I have just told her to wait and see how well she copes on her Silver before judging me.

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SILEBY PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

The 2011/2012 programme of the Society is well under way and features regular talks by renowned photographers supplemented by competitions and occasional Social Evenings.

During October the Society held another successful Exhibition at the Community Centre where over 400 prints were displayed in the Main Hall. The digital image show this year was entitled "The Four Seasons" and it received favourable reviews for the quality of the images and accompanying sound-track.

New members are always welcome at the regular Monday meetings at 8.00pm.

The programme until next June is shown below.

Dec	5	Coasting South	Digital Show	
Dec	12	More Imaginations		Graham Heywood
Dec	19	Pictures and Pies		Members

Bring 6 images or some mince pies

2012

Jan	9	Annual Competition Critique	Judge:-	Steve Roper
Jan	16	Scilly Isles	Slide Show	Val Williams
Jan	23	Annual Dinner		
Jan	30	Peak Light	Digital Show	David Butcher
Feb	6	Digital Image Knockout	Judge:-	Bob Rowe
Feb	13	Walking in the Himalayas	Digital Show	Alun Williams
Feb	20	New Zealand	Digital Show	Paul Bingham
Feb	27	1 st Quarterly Competition	Judge:-	John Jones
Mar	5	North & East Midlands Photographic Federation Slides 2012		
Mar	12	Here, There and Somewhere Else Digital Show		Peter Yeo
Mar	26	Two-way Battle with Melton Mowbray Photographic Society		
			Judge:-	Malcolm Sales
Apr	2	General Meeting followed by		
		Cabo de Gata	Digital Show	Colin & Mandy
Apr	16	2 nd Quarterly Competition	Judge:-	Derek Buckett
Apr	23	Limone and Lake Garda	Digital Show	Robert Sanders
Apr	30	An Evening with		Brian Ratcliffe
May	14	Digital Tuition and Members Short Displays		Members
May	21	Annual General Meeting		
May	28	An Evening with		Roy HigginboUom
June	11	3 rd Quarterly Competition	Judge:-	Bill Hall

DOG FOULING

IT'S YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD

**DO NOT ALLOW IT TO BE SPOILT BY IRRESPONSIBLE DOG OWNERS
BY HELPING US YOU CAN PLAY YOUR PART IN
MAKING IT A CLEANER ENVIRONMENT FOR ALL**

Once again Dog Fouling is at the top of the Parish Council Agenda. The main problem area is on the Memorial Park. The vast majority of dog owners are responsible and pick up the poop, but there are some owners who think they should be exempt from cleaning up after their dog. They seem to have no problem with leaving their dog mess in a public park where children play, and football is played most weekends. The last time Sileby Parish Council tried to tackle this problem we employed a Dog Warden. This proved not only expensive but not very effective. Dog walkers see the warden and pick up the poop, so it had limited effect as the warden was only employed for a few hours a week. It is clear that something needs to be done as the Parish Council receives more complaints about Dog Fouling than any other topic. So, what can we do?

Re-employ a Dog Warden – costly and not very effective

‘Dogs on Lead’ Order on the park – difficult to enforce and unfair on those who are responsible

Education and encouragement – minimal cost. Signs, leaflets and free poop bags.

We will be erecting new signs on the park reminding owners of their duty and, with the help of the Scouts, handing out leaflets to dog owners, encouraging them to clean up after their pet. Hopefully, this will go some way to reducing the problem, but we still need to do more. A fixed penalty notice can be issued in the first instance to irresponsible owners but we need evidence. Photos of the dog and the owner would be ideal, as they can be used against the dog owner. If you have any information please contact:-

The Clerk
Sileby Parish Council
41 High Street
SILEBY
Loughborough
Leics LE12 7RX

Tel: 01509 813075

Email address: clerk@silebyparishcouncil.org.uk

Have your say on Council spending in online survey

RESIDENTS are being invited to have their say on where **Charnwood Borough Council** spends its money and how happy people are with services.

The Council is launching a four-week consultation to help gather public opinion to help shape the Corporate Plan – the document which dictates Council policy over the next four years.

The consultation will be conducted as an online survey that will ask residents for their views on the priorities for the Council and how satisfied they are with the services provided.

For those without internet access, the Council will be staging a series of roadshows where people can take part in the survey. There will also be a paper version of the survey.

The consultation will start on November 14 and will end on December 31. The roadshows will be held between November 21 and December 9 at various venues across the Borough.

Dates and venues are currently being agreed and Parishes will be notified. They will also be published on the Council website and advertised in the local press.

The Corporate Plan is at the heart of everything the Council does and helps drive policy decisions, the Council's aims, targets and values.

It is important to the Council that as many residents as possible take part in this survey as it is only by truly understanding the views of our residents that we can ensure our corporate plan is delivering what you need.

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Church News



Christmas Services 2011

St. Mary's Sileby

Sunday 11 th December	4.00pm	Christingle Service
Christmas Eve	4.00pm	Family Carol Service
	6.30pm	Carol service
	11.30pm	Communion Service
Christmas Day	10.30am	All Age Service

All Saints Cossington

Sunday 18 th December	7.00pm	Carol Service
Christmas Day	9.30am	All Age Service

All Saints Seagrave

Sunday 4 th December	5.00pm	Family Carol Service
Sunday 18 th December	5.00pm	Carol Service
Christmas Day	9.30am	All Age Service

Sileby Methodist church

Saturday 10th & Sunday 11th Dec - Sileby Methodist Church Christmas Tree Festival

Come and visit our array of finely decorated Christmas trees!

Saturday - Refreshments served until 1pm

All age Sunday Service with Pastor Alfred Mosley at 10.45am

Sunday 18th Dec - Sileby Methodist Church Carol Service at 4pm

Saturday 24th Dec - Sileby Methodist Church Christingle Service at 4pm

Sunday 25th Dec - Sileby Methodist Church Christmas morning Service at 10.45 am with Pastor Alfred Mosley



Sileby Baptist Church

Sunday 18th December	6pm	Family Carol Service
Sunday 25th December	11am	Christmas Day Family Service

St Gregory's Catholic Sileby

Saturday 24th December	9pm	Mass—Devine Infant of Prague, Syston
Sunday 25th December	9am 10.30am	Mass—St Gregory's Sileby Mass - Defvine Infant of Prague, Syston .

**The team at Talk@Sileby
would like to wish a Merry
Christmas to all our readers.**



'GOOD' Ofsted inspection result for Sileby Day Nursery

Sileby Day Nursery is happy to share its recent Ofsted inspection report with us. The unannounced inspection took place in May 2011 at our premises 231 Cossington Road, Sileby.

Ofsted inspections take place every two to three years to check that the care and education delivered are of an appropriate standard. The Nursery was rated as 'good', just shy of the highest possible grade, 'outstanding'.

It is possible to read the inspection report in full at www.ofsted.gov.uk/inspection-reports- and quote the nursery address.

Here are just some of the findings;

The Ofsted inspector felt that Staff know children very well and have formed good relationships with them to ensure that they feel, and are, happy and settled.

Children are relaxed and secure within the setting. Overall, they are very familiar with daily routines and because of this are confident and happy.

Staff have a good understanding of the six areas of learning and predominately plan well to support children's individual needs and their interests.

Babies receive good levels of support Their smiles and chatter show how much they enjoy these experiences to enhance their learning.

There are good arrangements to promote children's health and safety. They enjoy healthy snacks and meals, which contribute to their good health and regular drinks are offered to them ...

Tracey Brown, the manager says, 'Sileby Day Nursery is fun, lively, loving and home from home and we like to make sure that every child feels valued and safe. Our staff is highly trained and have an excellent understanding of child protection as well as supporting and moving children on in their learning. We give detailed information to parents and invite them to special events so that they can feel involved in nursery life as well as with their children's learning. Parental views really make a difference to us. We are delighted with the outcome as it reflects the hard work and organisation carried out by my staff team who are dedicated to the Nursery'

If you would like to enquire about a nursery place please call Tracey on 01509 812300.

Full time and part time places are available for children from 6 weeks to 5 years old.

The Nursery also has a few free pre-school funding places - But be quick! - As places are filling fast!!

Sileby Day Nursery

- Quality Childcare for children aged 6 weeks to 5 years old
- Nursery education funding (Available to 3 and 4 year olds)
 - Experienced and Qualified Staff
 - Disabled access and facilities
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- Freshly prepared meals on the premises
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Your Letters

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

As NatWest's newly appointed Local Chief Executive Officer for the Loughborough area, I was delighted to be invited – along with my colleagues Rakesh Radia and Toni Vallance – to the recent Sileby Parish Council meeting.

I understand the many concerns surrounding NatWest Sileby, and can confirm the branch is definitely not closing.

The decision to reduce the hours at Sileby branch was not taken lightly, and is a response to falling customer demand and subsequently the workload no longer justifying the original opening hours. Critically, reducing the hours has enabled us to maintain a branch presence where we are the only bank, rather than considering closure. It has also enabled us to deploy more staff at our busier Loughborough branch, supporting the service there.

Although we currently open the branch from 10 am to 2pm on a Monday, Tuesday and Friday, I have received some feedback that these may not be the most appropriate days for the local community, especially as Thursday is Market Day in Loughborough. With this in mind, whilst I cannot change the overall hours, I will be happy to consider opening on a Thursday rather than a Tuesday. If this is something you would like to happen, please inform the Parish council who I will be meeting again before the end of the year to take forward the public's preference.

I am also happy to advise you that I have extended the opening hours of the Loughborough branch by 6.5 hours. The branch will be open from the 21st November 2011

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday	09:00 – 18:00
Wednesday	09:30 – 18:00
Saturday	09:00 – 16:00

Customers will also have 24-hour access to our telephone and online banking facilities. Please ask staff to help you get registered for online

Please be assured, as NatWest's Local CEO for the Loughborough area, I will be working closely with my very experienced team to ensure that we really do deliver helpful banking to heart of the local community. My team and I will provide the outstanding service you as customers want, need and deserve.

John Pugh—NatWest's Local CEO

Dear Sir,
Re: Issue 29 - Summer 2011

I am writing concerning the photographs on page 13 of this issue. I am most distressed to see my car on one of the photographs taken on Swan Street.

Perhaps your snapper failed to see the Blue Badges clearly displayed on the cars or perhaps he/she considers that disabled folk should stay at home and vegetate, not have a life at all.

Blue badge holders are vetted and have doctor's reports to verify that they cannot walk far and they are required to park responsibly - not near street corners etc therefore enabling them to have a degree of independence, not be reliant on other people's goodwill to get around.

The majority of us would dearly love to be able to undertake our tasks without having to

worry where we can park and if we are upsetting anyone else - I dread the day when I can no longer get about when I wish to visit friends, go to church or do shopping.

Yours faithfully
Brenda M. Bryan

Dear Sir,

As a disabled person myself I was interested in the article in the last Talk@Sileby regarding parking on double yellow lines.

It is not illegal if you display the 'Blue Badge and Time Clock'. Obviously we too have rules and regulations, for safety purposes. Looking at the photographs the grey car is clearly showing these required badges, the red vehicle which I recognise is also a disabled driver. (May I add not my car in the pictures!)

As far as I am aware the only on street disabled space in the centre of the village is outside the chip shop and Chinese (King Street) it is very rare for this to be empty for badge holders, even on a Sunday.

It is usually taken by non Badge Holders, visiting the numerous shops in the vicinity.

I hope this clarifies the photographers comments regarding 'Swan St.'

Terri Warren.

Editorial team response:

The team regret any undue distress our article and photograph's may have caused. When taking and publishing the picture none of us noticed the badges that are displayed correctly. We all fully support the rights of disabled Blue Badge drivers to park on double yellow lines as the rules allow.

We also feel strongly that the few disabled spaces in the village car park (behind Tesco) and the on road space on King Street should be respected and only used by Blue Badge holders and not by others who are only there to 'pop into one of the local shops'.

Re the music published in issue 29.

Thomas "Tricker" Preston 1840-1919.

A complimentary benefit concert on behalf of Mr "Tricker" Preston was given by the members of the Town Band, in the National Schoolroom on November 6th 1911.

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 the cause of charity during his life. Mr Preston as a youth spent five years in the Leicester Militia Band under Mr Nichols, who pronounced him a "living wonder". When he returned to Sileby he joined the Quorn and Sileby Band, as it was then called. Later he became a member of the Sileby Town Band, to which he belonged for some thirty years.

Mr Preston was also known as a composer, His anthem "The Lord is my shepherd" obtained a first prize in a competition open to all England, and he took second prize for "Trustfulness". Other anthems he composed, including "Great and Glorious", "Arise and Shine" were purchased and published in the "Yorkshire Choralist".

Mr Preston also composed a number of Glees, "Sweet Village Bells", "The Quorn Hunt" "Prosperity to old England" among others which could be heard at concerts in Sileby just before and just after the 1939-1945 war, These Glees were sung by a quartet from the Methodist Church Choir, namely Mrs Ivy Dakin soprano, Miss Lilian Hetterley alto Mr Leslie Spence tenor and Mr Stan Dakin bass.

All best wishes,
John Whittington

Our very special Costcutter

What *has* made our Sileby Costcutter so special – so special that an ITV advertising campaign for Costcutter stores was filmed in there? It's quite a story

Martin Swatland had worked hard all his life – with his brother he'd learnt his trade with Simkins & James, the smartest grocery shop in Leicester. Their father was the MD, but he insisted that his sons should learn the business thoroughly, starting on the counters. Later they were to learn about fine wines in Germany and the Champagne region of France. Leaving Simkins & James one brother founded Central Wine Stores in Oadby while Martin went on to open two grocery shops in Blaby then another in Nuneaton before eventually retiring to enjoy his golf. However - having time on his hands didn't really suit him he was missing the challenges of running a business.

By chance a new door opened – he was passing the old Swithland Motors premises as the “For Sale” boards were being nailed up – here was an opportunity to continue the family tradition; son John was a Master Butcher and his brother Mark had recently left the Navy – as a family they converted the old car showrooms into a supermarket, opening the doors for business in 1995. Then there were about 15 staff, and all the family helping – now there are 44, some of whom have been with the Swatlands for more than 9 or 10 years.

Entering Sileby Costcutter today the wide aisles and bright airy atmosphere immediately tell you that this is no ordinary “village shop” but something quite special – a “village shop” that does much more than provide our basic everyday shopping – they have indeed achieved standards of excellence in a wide range of goods – but more of that later.

Throughout the store the emphasis is on “fresh”; bread and milk, fruit and Lincolnshire-grown vegetables are delivered daily – twice weekly deliveries of Grimsby fish and most days of the week whole sides of meat are delivered to the cold store. Moving through the shop we find all the usual staples of baked beans and soup, flour and washing up liquids – well known brands as well as the Heritage lines – all at competitive prices, and with regular special offers.



The fruit and vegetable counter carries everything you'd expect – but also the unexpected – if you are looking for something a little exotic you might find an amazing bright green Romanesco cauliflower or glossy purple aubergines - what about a Moussaka tonight? – there's a regular supply of knobbly ginger roots and fresh herbs sharing the shelves with more prosaic potatoes, leeks and Brussels sprouts.

The real gastronomic delights are to be found at the rear of the shop – the deli counter – slices from home cooked hams and pork – haslet made in the store – fat olives and cheeses; pork scratchings tempt us to stray from the straight and narrow while golden chickens revolve gently in the glass-fronted oven. Sausages (locally made),



black pudding and bacon – and a friendly assistant ready to weigh them out for you. Home-made award-winning traditional Pork Pies and the not so traditional samosas and onion bhajis jostle for space in the glass cabinet - then you notice the range of coffees which can be freshly ground for you.

Move on a little – fresh fish from Grimsby – you just passed the rack of eggs, which includes big free range and organic ones from Sunrise – now you can see the butchery counter. To ensure a consistent quality all the pork, beef and lamb is from Staffordshire and Derbyshire, via an old-established family-run abattoir where the emphasis is on keeping the animals as stress-free as possible.



The meat is jointed and packed by a team of three butchers – there's at least one of them available every day of the week, keeping the shelves stocked and available to give advice or prepare that special cut for you. Beef pork and lamb joints, steaks and mince, chops and casserole cubes - free range chicken, liver – there's not much that the Swatlands counter cannot supply, all freshly prepared and packed on the premises. Here you can also find Award-winning sausages, all made in the store - thick slices gammon and, latest addition to the range – home cured bacon with the real old-fashioned taste.



So – we've got our fresh vegetables and meat – maybe a starter from the fish counter, some cheeses – wine will complete the meal – here again Costcutter won't let us down. Though at 75 “Mr Swatland” has officially retired (again!) he still keeps a fatherly eye on the business – and particularly the wine racks where he chooses wines to augment and complement the Costcutter selections thus maintaining a range of wines to suit every pocket and palate.

A “village shop” has always been renowned for selling everything but the kitchen sink – our Costcutter is no exception – birthday cards and stamps, charcoal and kindling, rubber bands and tights – your fluorescent tube goes on the blink on a Sunday morning? – no worries – you can get a new starter here! Fuses and felt-tip pens – you name it – they've got it! Top up your phone or pay a bill – a pharmacy for your medicines – the list is endless. Costcutter are also major sponsors for the Sileby cricket team.

So – what *has* made our Sileby Costcutter so special? Obviously, the experience of three generations in “groceries” – but above all, the people – they all, from Mark, the proprietor, Mr Swatland senior, the girls on the deli – the butchery team – the checkout staff – everyone greets you with a welcoming smile – but don't take my word for it – take your carrier bags and find out for yourself – I'm sure you won't be disappointed.

Pat Haswell September 2011

Costcutter

Sileby

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Subject to availability

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Was £7.09 (RSP)

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Offer valid 28/11/2011 to 11/12/2011
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Was £6.49 (RSP)

Save £2.50

Offer valid 28/11/2011 to 11/12/2011
Subject to availability

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Now £3.99

Per KG

Was £5.99 (RSP)

Save £2.00

Offer valid 28/11/2011 to 3/12/2011
Subject to availability

SILEBY PARISH PLAN GROUP

Earlier on this year a member of the Parish Plan Group applied to the Leicestershire Community Council to be entered into the 2011 Achievement Awards.

After meeting with the judges, who heard what had been achieved by the Group, especially the new maps and flower boxes it was a waiting game.

In September they heard that they had been awarded a Bronze Certificate along with a cheque for £25.

The money will enable the Group to continue to keep the flower boxes, at the entrances to the Village, filled with plants.

Two of the Group keep the boxes looking good, although some of the plants have been stolen. Hopefully in the Spring Sileby will be "In Bloom" again.



News from The Green Place

It's been a busy year for Complete Wasters at The Green Place. The spring saw the installation of a 3 kw solar panel array to provide clean energy for the shop, cafe and offices which has so far generated over £550 from the Feed in Tarriff scheme and 1200kwh of electricity

Things haven't stopped there and the the latest project this autumn has just been completed, **The yurt cafe and party tent**. This is a multi purpose luxury tent set on decking within the garden area, furnished with rugs, cushions and decorated with lights and bunting. We aim to create a cosy and unusual atmosphere in which to enjoy a snack, drink and more. The yurt (a Mongolian domed tent) will also be available to hire for parties, meetings, courses and workshops, so please get in touch if you have a birthday to celebrate or want to hire for a more unusual gathering.

Also please don't forget to check our ethical shop for great gift ideas for Christmas and remember are open Weds to Sats 10am till 4pm (till 7pm on Sileby lights switch on). The shop closes for Christmas on Thursday 22nd Dec at 4pm reopening Saturdays during January and February (shop and veg only) and fully reopening with the cafe on Saturday 3rd march 2012.

All the best for the festive season from Darren and all at Complete Wasters.

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It's about dealing with cancer and it's treatments the very best way you can! Fear of the unknown is a huge factor when a diagnosis of Cancer is given to anyone, the unknown facts about your medication are often not discussed in enough detail for you to understand and be prepared for.

Fear of the side effects caused by your treatment because you have heard so many rumours about it'

Dealing with these things is about asking the right questions and not being afraid to ask! Its about getting as much information, information that is available but not always offered, everyone has the right to know what type of journey they are about to embark on because this is going to be one of the most important journeys you will make.

Would you plan a journey without knowing your starting point? Would you plan a journey without knowing if you have the fuel to complete it? Would you plan a journey wondering if you had the time to complete it? Would you plan a journey without knowing where your destination was going to end? I think we all know the answers to these questions. So here is what you need to do.

Get support from the right people, get support from friends and family but don't expect them to know it all, they will support you with love and understanding but you will need more practical help too.

Get support from people who understand your treatment by asking questions, don't be afraid to question the people who are giving you your treatment, ask them to explain things to you, that's part of their job. You NEED to know what to expect so you can be prepared. Now it's time for me to offer my support, and help you to be prepared. I deal with the hair loss side of your journey, in my experience of dealing with ladies who have been told they will be having Chemo, it brings all sorts of fears and many ladies tell me that it's the hair loss that they dread the most.

The fear of losing our hair is the fear of losing part of our identity, our femininity, a part of the normality of everyday life, so where do you turn to for this type of support?

My service is to provide a confidential, understanding but positive effect for you, I can help you to make the transition easily and successfully, I provide some of the best wigs available, I will have a full consultation with you to discuss your needs, match up colour and style, if your wig is not quite perfect I will personalise it for you, whether it needs trimming or thinning I will make it truly your own.

I also offer you advice on what to expect with your hair loss, how to best deal with it in the early stages and also how to prepare for the re-growth.

It's about keeping the normality in your life as much as possible, keeping stress and fear to the minimum, having a greater understanding of what is actually happening to you and your body. Its about being able to talk about your fears, its about asking for practical help but most of all it's about being able to move forward in your journey one step at a time in steady shoes.

With the cricket season now over Sileby Town can reflect on yet another successful season within each area of the club. The mens teams brought back a variety of silverware, as well as producing some excellent performances in the league. The Ladies finished as runners up in their division and the Under 17s finished as county league runners up as another age group graduated from the Sileby Town Academy.

With skipper Liam Kinch, who himself is a product of the Sileby Academy system, at the helm for his first season in charge The First XI produced a strong league campaign and finished third in the Everards Premier Division.

That result is the best result that Sileby has achieved, since the Premier League was formed, and expectations will now be high of pushing things along in 2012.

It was one of Sileby's new recruits who helped propel them up that league table and who also walked away with a large number of prizes at the clubs presentation night – Gethin King, who moved in to the village with his family during the previous winter, proved to be a very valuable asset as he picked up Sileby's only century during the season, although Kinch did go close in a match winning knock at Lutterworth.

King's ton came in the third last match of the season as Sileby rattled to a comfortable win over Thorpe Arnold, as the attacking right hander finished unbeaten on 101 from 82 balls, an innings which helped him as the First XI's leading run scorer with 651 runs. That century was one of two centuries for the club, with his first being a new club record of 206 not out – plundered from just 104 balls against Frisby, Hoby and Rotherby some five weeks previously.

Another of Sileby's winter recruits, overseas player Mudassir Pasha, produced some exceptional performances as he finished top of the batting averages, with 458 runs at 32.71 and was third in the bowling averages with 24 wickets at 21.88 while Jordan King finished top of the wicket takers with 32 scalps.

King, King and Pasha would all go on to play key roles as Sileby claimed the Joe Orton Cup, thanks to a nine wicket win over Loughborough Town – skipper Micky Ruddle's second trophy as captain of Sileby's Thursday XI.

The Second XI had a very up and down season as they recovered from an early season run of five defeats from their first eight games to go on a run of eight wins from their next twelve matches to be in the promotion mix right up until the end of the season.

Richard Preston, another product of the Sileby Academy, topped the batting averages for the Seconds with 501 runs at 41.75 while Ben Cavey and Joe Charity shared the leading run scorer award with 517 runs at 39.77 and 27.21 respectively. Charity's cause wasn't helped by picking up the duck cup, having registered four ducks from his 21 innings.

The bowling plaudits went to Jim Melody, who was both the leading wicket taker and also top of the averages as he bagged 33 wickets at 17.12. Sam Gale, who graduated from the Sileby Academy this year, was the only other bowler to break the 20 wicket mark as he finished with 22 wickets at an average of 30.55. There's also further plaudits for another graduate, wicketkeeper Sean Dudley, who finished the season with 26 victims, which is his highest haul for the club.

While the Second XI cemented their place in Division Two, the Third XI are on the way up again. After ending the 2010 season as runners up in Division Eight they went one better this time around as they finished as comfortable winners of Division Seven, being promoted to Division Six at the first time of asking.

While his brother Gethin was making a big impression for the First XI, the younger King was making an equally good impression for the Thirds. Although he finished some way short of leading run scorer Ash Burnip (605 runs), he did finish top of the averages with 476 runs at an average of 47.60, including four fifties.

The bowling was very much a tale of three men – Dave King finished top of the averages, with 29 wickets at 10.83, Phil Hackett, with 21 wickets at 11, and wicketkeeper Mick Summerfield, 36 wickets at 11.81. They were three of five bowlers to reach the 20 wicket mark, and three others would reach double figures, as they proved far too good for many batting lineups in the league.

The Sunday XI brought in their own silverware as they cantered to the Golding Cup final, playing only one match – the semi final against Barrowby, and they then eased to a final victory against Barkby United, with Charity picking up the man of the match award for his score of 71. Richard Preston's men also finished second in Division Two of the Grantham League and will return to the top flight for the first time in a number of years.

While the men were producing excellent seasons, the season enjoyed by the Ladies XI can only be described as exceptional and beyond expectations. Having been battling to avoid the wooden spoon last term they surpassed even their own expectations to finish second in their division, some way behind the league winners Wellingborough Town but well clear of the teams chasing them.

Emma Dresser proved to be a valuable addition to skipper Gill Loveridge's lineup as she finished top of the run scorers charts with 179 runs at 35.80 while Deborah Butler took the most wickets for the team with 12.

The junior element of the club continues to go from strength to strength – the Under 17s reached the County final, where they lost out to Lutterworth, and the Under 15s and Under 13s put in strong performances in their district groups while the new intakes in to the academy, at Kwik Cricket and Incrediball, look to have early signs of including some excellent young players. If any of your children are interested in learning to play cricket, the club is running beginners courses at Ratcliffe College on Sunday evenings. We also hold winter nets for all other senior and junior age groups. If you know anyone who wants to join the club, regardless of age, gender or ability, please contact Richard James on 07713 132650 and he will be happy to provide you with further details.

Finally, we hope that you're reading this after enjoying the annual fireworks display at the cricket ground, where we hope to see you again next year, and also wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and look forward to welcoming you to Mill Lane during 2012.



PAVEMENT PARKING

The RNIB, Leicestershire Constabulary and Charnwood Borough Council are working together to encourage people to be more considerate when parking.

Did you ever consider that parking on the pavement can be 'Anti-Social'...?

As people, such as the **blind** and **partially sighted**, **wheelchair users** and those using **children's pushchairs**, sometimes have to walk on the road, make detours or turn back if they can't get past cars parked on the pavement.



If you park responsibly, you:

- ✓ allow at least enough space for a **double buggy** to pass
- ✓ will be considerate to the more **vulnerable members** of the community
- ✓ will help keeping people **safe**
- ✓ must adhere to **local parking restrictions** that are in place

If you do not park responsibly, you:

- ✗ could risk someone having an **accident**
- ✗ could risk your vehicle being **damaged**
- ✗ **will** be fined a minimum of **£30**

If you see anyone you believe is causing an obstruction then please call us to report it on **01509 634564** or email cleaner.greener@chamwood.gov.uk.

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Leicestershire Constabulary

Leicestershire County Council

Leicestershire and Rutland Fire and Rescue Authority

HOW MANY BRIDGES ARE THERE IN SILEBY?

Arising from one of many interesting discussions with Keith and Pauline Carvill the above question was posed.

With the help of 2½" to the mile Ordnance Survey Maps, a lot of legwork and some cycling the following list has been compiled which may or may not be complete.

The Bridges can be put into five categories:-

1	Bridges over Sileby Brook and feeder streams	22
2	Bridges over and under the Railway	9
3	Bridges over the River Soar and the Grand Union Canal	13
4	Mountsorrel Lane & Slash Lane	7
5	Other Bridges	25
	TOTAL	76

The total above may surprise you, it certainly surprised me. A full description of these will be published in the Easter issue and you will then be able to find them yourself and perhaps add one or two more to the list.



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