

# Talk@Sileby

Village Newsletter



39

Winter 2014

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# FORWARD

Talk @ Sileby, By Sileby people. For Sileby people

Sileby Christmas 'Lights Big Switch On' takes place on Friday 5th December with the activities commencing at 5:30pm.

Sileby Scouts Group are holding their annual Christmas fayre on Saturday 29th November in the Community Centre.

Another year goes by and we find ourselves at Christmas once again. All the committee members at Talk@Sileby would like to wish all the residents of Sileby a Happy Christmas and look forward to 2015.

All the Sileby Churches have special Christmas services and some of these can be found on page 14. If your preferred church is not listed then I am sure that they will be happy to give details of their activities if you make contact directly to them.

While you enjoy the festive period why not give some thought to joining this magazine's editorial committee. We would like someone to assist our treasurer and resident photographer, Lionel, in collecting the advertisers' details, booking the space and generally talking to the local businesses about advertising. This is a very important aspect to us as without advertising we would have no income to pay for the printing costs. Interested in Sport? You may notice that we have only short Sport details occasionally. If you would like to join us as a Sport correspondent you could add greatly to magazines sports coverage. For these or any other thoughts you may have, contact the editor Dave Palmer.

Next Issue will be Spring 2015. Copy and advert deadline is 28th February 2015.

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**Copies of talk@Sileby**

Back issues of talk@Sileby can be viewed on the internet at [www.sileby-village.co.uk](http://www.sileby-village.co.uk)

# Contacts

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<b>Printed by:</b>	Norwood Press, Ellistown	01530 262020

If you would like to give your feedback, articles or letters these can be sent to the Editor

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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

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

## Talk@Sileby

<b>Magazine Co-Ordinator:</b>	Ken Jones
<b>Editor:</b>	Dave Palmer
<b>Secretary:</b>	Pat Haswell
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Lionel Blower
<b>Societies Co-Ordinator:</b>	Robert Butler
<b>Auditor:</b>	Richard Kinton

Your community magazine is delivered to every home and business in Sileby, that's about 3800 addresses!

It is published 3 times a year: Spring around Easter time, in the summer and in November just prior to the Christmas lights "Switch on".

We have no political or commercial or religious allegiances 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. All items and pictures are copyright Talk@Sileby unless otherwise stated.

Front Cover Picture: Sileby's new skate park was opened in October.

Photo: L.Blower, SPS

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Sibley Motorbike riders Michael Mace and his team mate James Buchanan have just completed their first year in the televised superbike championship with Thundersport GB. Both new to this level, new to their bikes and new to some of the tracks their

achievements on 3rd and 4th cannot be understated. Next year they are aiming to take the championship title but they need your support. To help them please contact James directly at [chanan54@gmail.com](mailto:chanan54@gmail.com).





# 1<sup>st</sup> Sileby Brownies Celebrate!!!

This year has been a very special time for Brownies. It was 100 years since Brownies started. Brownies were set the challenge of completing ten activities to make it a memorable year and to gain a special badge.

As part of "Exploring somewhere new" we went to Cossington Meadows and walked to Sileby Mill. When we arrived we had a cup of tea on one of the narrow boats at the marina to complete the challenge "Having a cup of tea in an unusual place". We would like to thank Mr and Mrs Ramsey for their help with this.



To learn about another country we held a Chinese Night. We made a Chinese Dragon and played a game using wotsits and chopsticks.



To complete the adventurous activity challenge, we went to the Oaks Campsite, on a very cold and rainy evening and found our way through the Black Hole and climbed round the Climbing Wall. Everyone had a lovely time and a few overcame their fears.



One of our last activities was to make a display for the Methodist Church Flower festival. The theme was "Pack up your troubles" to commemorate the centenary of World War I. We made poppies out of felt and buttons and displayed them in an old suitcase.



We have enjoyed celebrating our 100<sup>th</sup> birthday and will remember all the fun that we had for a long time.

Sophie Ward - Assistant Brownie Guider - 1<sup>st</sup> Sileby Brownies

# *Heaps of Sileby for all your . . . .*

- Strippers & fillers, turps & sandpaper, putty, paint & brushes.
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## Statement of Accounts – 1.10.2013 to 30.09.2014

<u>Receipts</u>		<u>Payments</u>	
Balance c/forward	1914.06	Printing – Issue 30	909.00
Income from Advertisers	2842.00	Printing – Issue 31	918.00
		Printing – Issue 32	<u>918.00</u>
			2745.00
		Other Expenditure	54.00
		Balance in hand	2011.06
	<hr/>		<hr/>
	<u>4810.06</u>		<u>4810.06</u>

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 2014 and is therefore a true record of all transactions during that period.

R K Kinton AIB (ret'd) Internal Auditor.

As readers can see, the Village Magazine has a balance in hand of just over £2000.00.

The Committee wishes to explain some of the history of talk@sileby. Some 12 years ago, following a village appraisal instigated by Leicestershire Rural Community Council a committee was formed with the late Councillor Roy Brown as Chairman. The magazine received a grant of £2000.00 through the auspices of the Parish Council.

To produce three magazines each year, now in colour, costs around the amount that our very supportive advertisers pay, and it is sent free of cost by our faithful team of deliverers to every house in the village. It is the committee's decision that talk@sileby is a non-profit making organisation and our Treasurer, Lionel Blower, goes to great lengths to make the 'books balance' each year, not an easy task and requiring a good deal of effort in persuasion and collection of the finances.

We hope this article goes someway to show readers 'the story' behind the magazine and should anyone have any questions please write or e-mail the Editor.

# The "Mud Track" - Sileby's best-kept natural secret

J. Hill

Little do some residents of Sileby know, but there is an abundance of natural beauty and variety to be found in seemingly unlikely places in the heart of the village. One such area is a strip of land running from Heathcote Drive, opposite Busy Bees supermarket, parallel to Sileby Brook and Gibson Road until its end at the near end of the park.

The place has become affectionately known to locals as the "Mud Track" thanks to its habit of becoming a mire after rainfall, and it has escaped development for this reason as it forms an important drainage catchment for the surrounding estate. The result is an untouched area of grassland and wooded glades, the last surviving remnant of the wild boundaries of the field system which used to stretch as far as the park before being developed in the 1970s. Popular as a thoroughfare, as well as for walking dogs and as a play area, the "Mud Track" is also a well-kept natural secret, with an impressive variety of plants and animals to be seen.

The species seen at the Mud Track are dictated by the seasons. The area is relatively bare in winter, yet fieldfare can often be seen roosting in the taller trees, while on a rare occasion waxwings may pass through, picking off the last remaining hawthorn berries as they go. Spring sees the first signs of abundant plantlife as the trees begin to blossom, led by the numerous cherry trees. Most spectacular is the wall of Blackthorn at the far end of the track, which becomes a carpet of white in mid-April. By May, the grasses begin to grow tall, and with them come a number of flower species, particularly Cow Parsley. While the spindly plant with its clumps of tiny white flowers may appear unremarkable at the roadside, here they grow tall with the grass, often to head height, creating a suburban jungle a stone's throw from home which provides sustenance for emerging bees and butterflies. There is also a small pool at the centre of the track which sees frogs spawning annually.

As summer begins, the Mud Track's species diversity continues to increase. Speedwells, Great Willow-Herb, Lesser Knapweed and Bramble all bloom be-



tween June and August, while birdlife is abundant, with garden species from surrounding houses visiting, alongside rarer visitors such as woodpeckers. At dusk, Hedgehogs may be seen foraging in the grass, while bats regularly hunt during the warmer months. Surveying butterfly species for the Butterfly Trust last year, I found sizable colonies of Meadow Blue and Ringlet, the latter of which is of national significance.

Late summer and autumn bring a bounty as the trees change. With the Wild Cherries a distant memory, the Blackberries spring into life and send the birds into a frenzy of activity as Winter approaches - and humans too: take my word for it that the bush at the far end has the best fruit in Sileby! Meanwhile, kids can be seen collecting conkers from the Horse Chestnut trees along the track as the grasshoppers chirp - another animal you'll struggle to find in greater numbers anywhere else in the village and its surroundings.



Central to this diversity is Sileby Brook, which runs along the track's south side. It's drainage leads to the mixture of wetland and drier grasslands in the small area, while it is itself home to dragonflies, flies and many small fish which feed visiting birds. I was lucky enough to see a Kingfisher on the brook this July and, while a rare sight, it was no one-off; I made a similar sighting two years ago at the same location. To know that such an enigmatic bird calls our village's brook home is testimony to the life it supports.

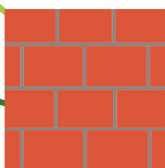
The area is not without its problems. Littering is a massive issue, particularly at the brook's edge, with people old and young regularly depositing rubbish there and I regularly fill a bag with litter when walking there. Dog fouling is also becoming an increasing nuisance. The Blackthorn at the far end, though beautiful, is beginning to encroach onto the meadow and may soon damage biodiversity. Though it would be desirable to see these problems nipped in the bud, it is unlikely to change until the village begins to acknowledge just what a wonderful sanctuary for nature the "Mud Track" is.

So if you're looking for a quick walk with something new to see every day, consider heading to the "Mud Track". There's probably not another place in Sileby with such an abundance of wildlife, and who knows - you might see something you never expected to see in Sileby!

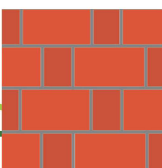
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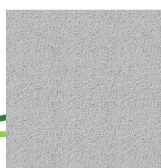
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£7,000	£500	£5,250	£1,250		£34.72 (x36)	0%



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<sup>(1)</sup> A minimum of 50% of external walls must be insulated to qualify for cash back and amount is subject to Green Deal Home Improvement Scheme Availability.

# The Green Place 2014 - a round up.

It's been a busy year of challenges trying to adjust to life without the computer workshop and fewer festival recycling contracts. It's been all about trying to get The Green Place to stand up on its own two feet financially and we have spent the year trying to make it as attractive as possible to the folk of Sileby and beyond. We have held over 30 events and workshops this year with the greatest attended being our bi-annual Music at The Green Place events.

The cafe is gaining a good reputation for tasty veggy food and drink (with some vegan and gluten free too) and now with the addition of the pizza oven, a variety of pizzas can be cooked at our special events. Several birthday parties and wedding celebrations have been held in the leafy gardens and using the yurt tent of The Green Place and it is available to hire from Spring to Christmas each year.

At the Sileby Lights Night we hope to have our yurt tent decorated into a magical twinkling wonderland for children to visit Santa in his grotto. There will be marshmallow toasting, mulled wine, stollen and more. The shop will be packed full of fairtrade and unusual present ideas right up to closing on Saturday 22nd December.

Please come and support our local project so we can be assured of a future when we reopen on Saturday 21st March 2015.

Thanks to all of you who have visited and encouraged us over the year.

The Green Place is open Weds-Fri  
10am - 5pm, Saturdays 10am - 4pm.

Darren Potter  
Complete Wasters  
The Green Place  
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## **Christmas Services**

### **SILEBY METHODIST CHURCH**

December 6<sup>th</sup> - Concert and Supper with Caroline Sharp and Singers.

December 13/14/15<sup>th</sup> - Christmas Tree Festival

December 15<sup>th</sup> - Ladies Circle Carol Service- 2,30pm

December 21<sup>st</sup> - Church Carol Service @ 4.00pm

December 24<sup>th</sup> - Christingle Service

### **Some Future items**

January 14<sup>th</sup> 2015 - Afternoon Tea

February - Shrove Tuesday – Pancake Lunch

February (Date later) - Quiz and Afternoon Tea

## **St. Mary's**

December 14th 4:00-4:30pm—Christingle Service.

December 21st 11:00-11:45am Nativity Service.  
5:00-6:00pm Seagrave Carol Service  
7:00-8:00pm Cossington Carol Service

December 24th 4:00-4:45pm Family Carol Service  
6:30-7:30pm Traditional Carol Service  
11:30pm Midnight Communion

December 25th Christmas Day celebration service  
9:30 at Seagrave and Cossington 10:30am Sileby





# SILEBY PARISH COUNCIL

**WAR MEMORIAL** - The restoration work is now completed and Midland Stone Masonry is to be complimented on their workmanship. We are grateful and fortunate to have received funding from English Heritage and the Wolfson Foundation and also from Leicestershire County Council. My thanks too, to Eric Wheeler from Sileby Heritage for supplying me with certain information required when completing the rather complex 'Grant Application Form'!

**OUTDOOR FITNESS EQUIPMENT** - Sileby Parish Council has been successful in its bid to the Big Lottery Fund for outdoor fitness facility. The Big Lottery Fund is responsible for giving 40% of the money raised for good causes by the National Lottery. The Fund is committed to bringing real improvements to communities and the lives of people most in need and has been rolling out grants to health, education, environment and charitable causes across the UK. Five pieces of equipment have been installed at Sileby Memorial Park to provide locals with the opportunity to get fit for free. The equipment valued at £9,850 was provided by Streetscape Ltd. Physical activity plays an important role in improving health and the quality of life and well-being and hopefully this equipment will motivate residents to get fit!

**DOG FOULING** - This is still a major problem in the village, especially on the Memorial Park. The 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. This is so inconsiderate when the mess is left in a public park, where children play, and football is played most weekends. Three offenders have been caught on camera and have been issued with a Fixed Penalty Notice.

**DEFIBRILLATORS** - Sileby Parish Council has purchased two more Defibrillators - one has been sited on the wall of the Sports Pavilion in the Memorial Park and the other outside Busy Bees Store on Heathcote Drive, many thanks to Mr Kanabar for allowing us to site it outside his shop. The Parish Council will be asking the Community Heartbeat Trust to give another De-fib Awareness Session in the future and this will be advertised in Talk@Sileby.

**CHRISTMAS LIGHTS** - The Annual Christmas Switch On will take place on Friday, 5 December commencing 5.30 pm. There will be entertainment for the children from Lisa Lollipop and children from Highgate Primary School will be singing Christmas carols. We do hope you can come along and join in the fun.

**WESTMINSTER TRIP** - There are still a few tickets left for this tour of the Houses of Parliament, taking place on Monday, 15 December at a cost of £20.00. If you are interested please contact the Parish Council Office for further details.

Rosemary Richardson,  
Clerk to Sileby Parish Council  
clerk@silebyparishcouncil.org.uk  
Tel: 01509 813075

**SKATEPARK** - The extension to the skatepark was finished on 26 September and the launch took place on Saturday, 11 October which was a great success. Many thanks to Nicky Morgan MP, and the Mayor and Mayoress of Charnwood for attending this event. Demos from Keelan Phillips and Cam Peake impressed us all and thanks to Charnwood Borough Council for supporting this event too. We are most grateful to Sport England for funding, which made this project possible and also to CF Construction who worked extremely hard on this project, and made an excellent job – well done!

Here we present a few images of the opening day.









# ***SILEBY PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY***

The 60<sup>th</sup> Annual Exhibition was held at the Community Centre between Monday 20<sup>th</sup> and Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> October. The Exhibition was opened on the Monday by the Mayor of Charnwood, Councillor Paul Day. The judge, David Gibbins, then announced the awards and presented the trophies and certificates to the successful competitors. The visitors to the Exhibition were able to view the prints and digital images that had been entered for judging as well as the themed presentation 'The National Parks of Great Britain - Part 1'.

On sale during the Exhibition was the latest DVD produced by members - Sileby People and Places. (If you are not in it then you will know someone that is). Due to recent enquiries we have had further copies made of the first DVD 'Sileby then and now'. If you would like either of the 2 DVDs - ideal for a Christmas present - then these can be obtained from Lionel Blower on 01509 816287.

The regular meetings of the Society are held at 8pm every Monday evening in the Primary Room at the Community Centre. All visitors are welcome and refreshments are provided during the interval.

## ***Sileby People and Places***

*With pictures spanning three centuries, this brand-new DVD collection from Sileby Photographic Society depicts the people of Sileby and shows how the village has changed over the past 130 years or so.*



*This newly released collection is the sequel to our popular DVD "Sileby, Then and Now".*

*There's probably someone you know who'd love one for Christmas - they're only £7.50.*



Contact Lionel on 01509 816287 or by email at [landr25@btinternet.com](mailto:landr25@btinternet.com)



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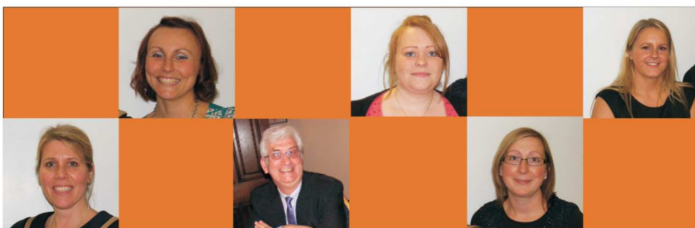
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# Highgate Surgery P.P.G.

Hi, My name is Christine and I am secretary of Highgate P.P.G., along with Chairman Sheila, Vice-chairman Liz, Treasurer Dave, and May who liaises with Dr. Lakhani. Other committee members are Lynda, Pat and Terry, plus on special events husbands Ken and Bill since without their help coffee mornings would not take place. You may well ask "What is the P.P.G. and what does it do"?. Well to begin P.P.G. stands for Patient Participation Group (otherwise known as the Friends of Highgate Surgery). We organise "special coffee mornings" to make people more aware of various chronic illnesses. For example last year we had a speaker from the Alzheimer Society to explain what to look out for. Then in June this year a Diabetes morning was organised with many tables showing how to help control Diabetes. In November we are planning an "Arthritis Awareness" coffee morning with a speaker who suffers from Arthritis and can tell us first hand how difficult day-to-day living can be. Our aim at these coffee mornings is to raise money to send to the various charities who help make our lives easier. We raise money by way of raffles, which Lynda runs extremely efficiently. So far we have raised £105 for L.O.R.O.S., £68 for Alzheimer Society, and £123 for Diabetes U.K. In September we also helped out at the surgery by handing out Patient Survey Questionnaires. In October we held our A.G.M. in the Community Centre. Mrs May Lakhani told those present all about the new initiatives that have been started at the surgery. The new doctor, Natalia Lomatschinsky, is now working for five sessions a week and a minor surgery clinic, with Dr Chan, is available once a month. Dr. M. Lakhani said that "the best is still to come". So the P.P.G. are looking forward to the new year ahead. Highgate Surgery are finalists for the General Practice Team of the Year and also Long Term Conditions Team of the Year in the National General Practice Awards and will be going to London in November.

Would you like to join the P.P.G. as we are always looking for new members with new ideas? You will find us on a stall at the "Winter Wonderland" Christmas Lights Switch-on on December 5th in the Community Centre. We look forward to seeing you there!



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## County Council News

The County Council is taking action to deal with the underfunding it receives from the government when compared with other county councils.

There are reductions in grant for local government generally but Leicestershire has the third lowest Government funding, receiving £56 less, per person, than the average county council, and the Council is continuing to raise this unfairness with MPs.

If funded at the same level as the average county council, Leicestershire would receive an extra £37 million per year. If funded at the same level as Nottinghamshire, it would receive an extra £69 million per year, and if at the same level as East Sussex, an extra £113 million per year.

Some of the savings we have to make in Leicestershire come from the Libraries budget. Following a meeting at the end of August arranged by the Parish Council a Steering Group has been formed to develop a plan to keep the Sileby Library open, run by volunteers. A number of people have kindly offered to help but more are needed, so if you feel you could spare any time or want to find out what would be involved, please do let me or the Parish Council know.

Cont...

The County Council has been preparing for Winter by getting in stocks of grit to treat the roads. 18,000 tonnes of grit will be available and when ice is forecast 45 per cent of the road network is treated, including most A roads, some B and C class roads, major commuter and bus routes, and, as far as is possible, at least one route through all Leicestershire villages.

Finally, it's interesting to note that a recent local government survey by PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC) found that "A smaller proportion of the public than in previous years – 35% compared to 47% in 2011 – accept the need to make cuts or reductions in services." PwC say: "The need for councils to engage the public in the tough choices that need to be made, to meet the financial challenges they face in the next few years, is more critical than ever."

Richard Shepherd, County Councillor, Telephone: 01509 413903  
Email: richard.shepherd@leics.gov.uk

## Sileby Town Cricket Club—Richard Kinton (Supporter)

The 1st XI finished 3rd from 12 teams in the Premier Division of the Leicestershire & Rutland Cricket League, a big improvement on the previous season.

The 2nd XI also finished 3rd in Division 2 narrowly missing promotion. The 3rd XI finished 4th in Division 5 (East).

The newly formed 4th XI captained by veteran Paul Yates also finished a credible 4th in division 11.

All XI's suffered from availability problems, illness, injury, holidays and weddings, even a parachute jump! otherwise league positions could have been significantly better.

Again the weather played its usual part with several games cancelled or rain effected, mostly to Sileby's disadvantage.

The Sunday XI playing in the Grantham League had a successful season finishing 3rd.

The Thursday Evening XI won the Joe Orton Cup, beating League Champions Loughborough Town in the final by 4 wickets with 5 balls to spare. The game was played over two innings per side.

The clubs major achievement was winning the County Cup played at Grace Road for the first time by trouncing Hinckly Town by 94 runs. Sileby scored at 7 runs per over in 40 overs thanks to superb innings from Mitchell Buck 96 and Luke Gale 80 not out, plus Rob Moores 60 not out. The weather for early September was ideal and Buck and Gale treated a large crowd to excellent stroke play and clean hitting every bit as good as seen on TV. Sileby's bowlers backed up by very good fielding and catching meant Hinkley were never really in the hunt. Well done lads!

The ladies XI play on Sundays in the Midlands Womens League division 3 and finished mid-table.

The Clubs U13's, U15's and U17's are on the look out for new members to join and enjoy the clubs excellent facilities.

Richard James went to Lords to be presented with an OSCA from the ECB Building Partnerships for Leicestershire. Congratulations Richard.



## Heroes

### TWO FRIENDS LIVING ON BACK LANE WHO BECAME BROTHERS IN-LAW.



Europeans Only

#### **A.CPL Mark William Holmes (Left) 5504 1<sup>st</sup> Bn Leicestershire Regiment.**

1891 Census: Living Back Lane age 12 son of Thomas and Mary.

1901 Awarded Queens South Africa Medal and Clasp Transvaal.

1903 Awarded Kings South Africa Medal and Clasps South Africa 1901 and 1902.

1907 Mark Married Sarah Aldridge.

1908 – 1914 They had two sons and two daughters.

1914 Entered France 29<sup>th</sup> November.

1917 The War Diary: “Raid by 16<sup>th</sup> Brig one wounded from D Company”.

Mark William Holmes Died of wounds 26<sup>th</sup> Jan 1917.

1918 Sarah Holmes at 38 Cossy Rd (next door to Edwin Rose my Great Grandad).

#### **L.CPL ISAAC KIDGER (Right) 3321 Leicestershire Regiment.**

1891 Census: Living Back Lane age 16.

1891 Short service form 2/Leicestershire Regiment age 18 and 5 months.

1901 Must have got Queens South Africa Medal (Kings S/A never issued alone).

1902 Issac Kidger Married Florence E Holmes.

1903 26<sup>th</sup> June Awarded Kings South Africa Medal and Bars SA1901, SA1902

1904 18<sup>th</sup> June Atestation 1<sup>st</sup> Class Army Reserve.

1908 17<sup>th</sup> June Discharged.

1914 26<sup>th</sup> October PRF 652 Agric Company 1.

1915 23<sup>rd</sup> September Elected unpaid L/CORPL.

1917 5<sup>th</sup> May Trans to 17 Yorkshire Regiment. 12<sup>th</sup> Dec Trans 18 Yorkshire Reg.

1918 Isaac Kidger Absent? On both 1918 Polling Lists.

1928 Living 38 Back Lane with 2<sup>nd</sup> wife and two children over 21.



# WE WILL REMEMBER THEM MEN WHO DIED 100 YEARS AGO

**13 Feb**                      **PRIVATE WILLIAM HUBBARD (Died age 25)**  
**1915**                      **8018 1<sup>st</sup> Bn. Leicestershire Regiment**

Census age 11 Living Barrow Rd. Father William Hubbard.

Census age 21 Living Telavera Barracks, Aldershot.

1914 Disembarkation date 9<sup>th</sup> Sept 1914 Campaign:- B.E.F 1914

Awarded:- 1914 Star, British and Victory Medals.

**22 Feb**                      **PRIVATE ERNEST KIDGER (Died age 21)**  
**1915**                      **9767 2<sup>nd</sup> Bn. Leicestershire Regiment**

1901 Census age 9 Living Back Lane. Father Charles Kidger.

1911 Census age 17 Living King Steet.

1914 Entered France 13<sup>th</sup> December 1914.

Awarded:- 1914/15 Star, British and Victory Medals.

**6 Mar**                      **PRIVATE ERNEST PORTER (Died age 23)**  
**1915**                      **2211 5<sup>th</sup> Bn. Leicestershire Regiment**

1901 Census age 11 Living Brook Street.

1911 Census age 20 Living Cossington Road. Shoe Finisher.

1912 Married Martha Freer had Son and Daughter. The Banks.

1915 Entered France 28<sup>th</sup> Feb. Killed in action 6<sup>th</sup> March (6 days)

Awarded:- 1914/15 Star, British and Victory Medals.

**13 May**                      **PRIVATE LESLIE JOHN MOIR (Died age 20)**  
**1915**                      **1732 Leicestershire Yeomanry**

1901 Census living Leicestershire age 6.

1911 Census living Charnwood House Barrow RD Age 16.

Entered France 2<sup>nd</sup> Nov 1914. Killed in action 13<sup>th</sup> May 1915.

Only son of John and Alice Moir, Charnwood House.

Awarded:- 1914 Star, British and Victory Medals.

Remembered at Menin Gate Memorial (For Soldiers with no known grave)

**15 May**                      **PRIVATE ARTHUR EDWARD WHITTINGTON**  
**1915**                      **15875 2<sup>nd</sup> Bn. Leicestershire Regiment**

1901 Census age 13 Living Barrow Rd.

Census age 23 Living Barrow Rd. Brickyard Worker.

Entered France 19<sup>th</sup> March 1915

Awarded:- 1914/15 Star, British and Victory Medals.

Geoff Rose

# Opinion Piece

Sileby Parish Council called an open meeting on Thursday 30th October at the community centre to discuss with the villagers the many ongoing issues concerning the village.

Elected members of the Parish, Borough, and County Council, Borough and County Planning Officers, Severn Trent, Environment Agency [Flooding], National Health Service and Schools Education Officers were present, [ But NOT the Police ? ]where they invited?

A packed hall [standing room only] of 200 plus villagers posed a variety of questions regarding planning applications which, if all are given the go-ahead, would mean Sileby's present 9000 plus population being increased by a possible 4000 further inhabitants with no thought to the dire traffic conditions that exist on the FIVE roads in and out of the village.

The Planners, as usual 'wriggled' behind planning laws and blamed successive governments for the position they are in! Clearly Section 106 monies available from developments, past, present and future do not seem to be reaching Sileby, if and they certainly have not been spent on improving the infrastructure.

In a nutshell, Sileby has moved into the 21st century but the infrastructure is still in the 1950's!

Cars and Parking are a major concern, terraced housing with no off road parking is causing real hazards on our five major entrance and exit roads. Huge lorries get stuck in the narrow streets, buses have great difficulty keeping to their schedules, there is parking on yellow lines with no apparent enforcement and Sileby's car park is now, almost daily, full to capacity.

Two Doctors from the Banks Surgery explained how an increased population will affect their already overstretched service and necessitate a 'New' Health Centre, and also how it would needed to be funded. The NHS representative confirmed that they only pay the rent on these premises.

The flooding issue is a major problem and a big bone of contention, but as no houses are flooded the Environment Agency does not see a problem in the huge inconvenience villagers are posed as they attempt to get to work in either Leicester or Loughborough, as both Mountsorrel Lane and Syston Road, Cossington are often impassable for several days at a time.

This is a brief resume of the main points raised for those of you who did not attend the meeting. However, a consensus of opinion suggests the need for a 'follow up' meeting, perhaps in April 2015 before the Borough, County and General Elections, to see what progress has been made, if any, on the many concerns the villagers have.

If you wish to comment on the above or have any points you wish to make, please contact the Editor by letter or email in readiness for the Spring Edition of Talk@Sileby.

*Name and address supplied.*

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## SILEBY GALA NEWS.

The date for the Sileby Gala 2015 to be held on Sileby Memorial Park is Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> June; for further details, stalls etc. please contact Gill Brown tele. 01509816545.

### VALENTINE'S DAY DANCE.

The Gala Queen 2015 will be selected at a Valentine Day Dance on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> Feb. to be held at Sileby Community centre. Tickets 'Price £15 including Buffet' can be obtained from Heaps Hardware Store or the Newsagent on Dudley Bridge.

We have a good and strong Committee, but we would not say no to more volunteers if you're interested.

Ken Jones, Chairman.

## Sileby Juniors football club:

We are a FA Charter standard club, with qualified FA coaches at all levels. We currently have over 120 Children participating on a weekly basis with an age range of 4 years up to under 14s playing 5 aside, 7 aside, 9 aside and also 11 aside for their relevant age group. Our base is at Sileby memorial park and we can be found down there Saturday Morning and also Sundays.

If you would like to find out more details please contact info@silebyjuniorsfc.co.uk or pop along on a Sunday to the Pavilion, From Everybody at Sileby juniors we wish you a very merry Christmas.

## Sileby Running Club

Sileby's own running club meets during each week as follows.

**Tuesday** - Ladies only running, all abilities, meet 6.30pm, Tesco car park outside of the Youth Club

**Thursday** - Mixed group, meet 6.30pm, Tesco car park as above

**Sunday** - Mixed group, meet 8am, Tesco car park as above - we do longer runs on Sundays but will always arrange a shorter route for anyone who needs it

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