

Talk@Sileby

Village Newsletter



44

Summer 2016

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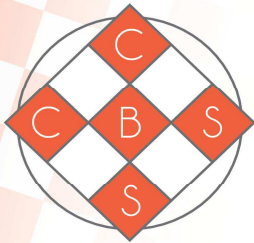
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Charnwood Borough Council Environmental Awards – ‘Don’t Muck Around Awards’

Congratulations to Councillor Robert Butler who was nominated for this award and won the category ‘Biggest Improvement in an Area’. The project achieved a much needed improvement to the visual appearance of the brook and help towards the prevention of flooding. The Leicestershire Conservationists, plus several residents helped Robert clear away rubbish. Robert stated: “I wanted to do something for the community as I am ‘passionate’ about my village having lived here all my life and felt that the cleaning of the brook was a worthwhile project to take on. Many residents have complained about the state of the brook and unfortunately the Environment Agency only clear it once every two years”.

Robert was presented with his award from the Mayor of Charnwood Councillor Mr David Gaskell. Also on the photo is the Chairman, Mrs Fiona Hughes and Deputy Chairman, Mr Paul Murphy of Sileby Parish Council.

The front cover shows Robert receiving his award and a before and after of the Brook.



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

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These prices are per issue. 10% discount for booking and paying for three insertions in advance

**Next Issue will be Winter 2016. Copy and advert deadline is
20th October 2016.**

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

Talk@Sileby

| | |
|--------------------------------|---------------|
| Magazine Co-Ordinator: | Ken Jones |
| Editor: | Dave Palmer |
| Secretary: | Pat Haswell |
| Treasurer: | Lionel Blower |
| Societies Co-Ordinator: | Robert Butler |
| Contributor: | Lynne Root |

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.

Talk @ Sileby, By Sileby people. For Sileby people

Dealing with dog control issues – new powers available to Councils and the Police

Do you know someone who is not controlling their dog effectively?

It might be they are allowing the dog to:

- Roam
- Roam and foul
- Attack other dogs
- lunge at people
- or other dog control issues which affect your daily life

If so, Charnwood Borough Council can use new powers under the Anti-Social Behaviour Crime and Policing Act 2014 to issue a Community Protection Notice (CPN). The notice means the owner has to ensure they are in full control of their dog and they are not being anti-social.

You would need to tell us the name and or address of the person and also what they are doing.

We would have to prove that the behaviour is unreasonable and it is detrimental to the quality of life of people in the area for a warning notice.

If the owner does not comply with the notice then they can be prosecuted by the Council. Possible action could include a criminal behaviour order being served on the owner and failure to comply with this is an imprisonable offence.

If you would like to report a dog control issue then call 01509 634564 or email cleaner.greener@charnwood.gov.uk

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Spring edition photographic competition results

1. Sileby Baptist Chapel, Cossington Road
2. The gateway to the car park of Sileby Conservative Club, Cossington Road
3. Free Trade Inn sign, Cossington Road
4. Memorial Stone on the former Wesleyan Chapel, High Street
5. On the wall above Grace Marie's, formerly the Plough Inn, High Street
6. Swains Garage, King Street
7. Looking down the railway station steps, King Street
8. On the roof of Redlands School, King Street

There were three correct answers, first out of the hat was sent in by Susan & Jim Healy.

The Committee thank those who entered the competition, look out for the next one in the Christmas edition.



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The County Council has begun installation of LED street lights, in the first phase of a four year programme working through more than 66,000 lights County-wide.

The new lights will be controlled centrally, and if they are switched off in line with the part-night lighting schedule they can be switched back on temporarily to help the emergency services at incident scenes.

The initial limited installation is enabling the highways team to investigate any problems which may arise before the programme is extended to other areas. The low level columns in Sileby, the ones up to 6 metres high, are scheduled to be replaced during the summer of 2016. The high level columns, over 7 metres high, will be replaced at a future date.

The Council is investing £25.1 million in the project, made up of £20 million from reserves and £5.1 million from a successful bid to the Department of Transport. The project will reduce the Council's carbon footprint and is expected to make £2 million of savings per year by 2018 – 2019.

A letter from Nicky Morgan MP

I would like to offer my congratulations to everyone involved in organising the Sileby Gala recently. It was a terrific event and I'm so pleased the weather was fine. I know how much hard work goes into making all the arrangements. There was a huge variety of stalls and activities and delicious cakes! It was great to see some familiar faces and meet new residents too.

I was so pleased to see Sileby Parish Councillor and flood warden Robert Butler receive one of the Charnwood Council "Don't Muck Around" awards for the work he does in the village and particularly in clearing the brook. Robert won the "Biggest Improvement to an Area" award and he really deserves it. Thank you to Robert for all he does for the village.

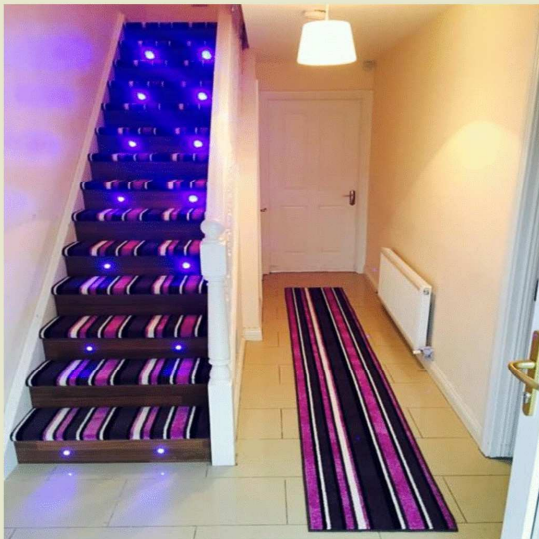
Residents may know that Leicestershire County Council has now published its Sileby and Barrow upon Soar Transport Study. The Council will use this report as evidence to help inform their future advice to developers and the local planning authority on any new planning applications which may be received in Sileby and Barrow. I know this has been discussed by the Parish Council and your County Councillor, Richard Shepherd and I, are following up queries with the two councils. If you would like to see a copy please let us know.

I am also dealing with a few cases of anti-social behaviour around the village. If you are having problems please do contact the ASB officer at Charnwood Council, the police or my office. There are steps which can be taken to help and I do know, from my casework, just how wearying and upsetting it can be to experience problems so you don't feel like your home is a home anymore. There have been lots of events to celebrate the Queen's 90th Birthday. It was a privilege to attend the official thanksgiving service at St Paul's Cathedral as well as attending a number of local parties. It was great to get all the red, white and blue bunting out again!



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Sileby Neighbourhood Watch



Sileby Neighbourhood Watch is a group of local residents who meet at Sileby Community Centre on the High Street on the third Tuesday of each month.

With summer now here, there are a few things you can all do to try and make your homes and property more secure. Here are a few tips:

- ☐ With all the warm weather we hope to have, you may have your windows open more than usual, but be sure to close and lock your windows when you go out, especially downstairs, as open windows can provide easy access.
- ☐ If you are in and out of your sheds and garages for bikes, toys and gardening equipment, remember to make sure doors are secure when you are not around, because unsecured outbuildings are a favourite target for opportunists.
- ☐ When you have been out for a bike ride in the warm weather, it can be tempting to leave your bikes out and go straight for a refreshing drink, or plan to wash your bike down later on, but even a few minutes left unattended can be long enough for someone to make off with your valuable bicycle – make sure it is secured!
- ☐ Never leave a laptop or other internet enabled device on standby in your car – even when out of sight, thieves are able to detect the device searching for or accessing an internet connection, and will break into your car to steal the item.

The more you can do to deter thieves the better. They are on the lookout for easy pickings, so secure your property and possessions. Remember: always report crimes to the Police. They can't do anything to help if a crime goes unreported, and they won't know what the true impact of crime in our community is if we don't keep them informed! Look out for information about Sileby NHW online:

Find us on  Sileby Community Page & Sileby Neighbourhood Watch
Email us at: silebynhw@gmail.com

REMEMBER: Third Tuesday of every month, 7pm at Sileby Community Centre. All are welcome, so please drop in and see us.

Cricket Club

At the time of writing the weather has had a downturn and a cricketer's worst nightmare is taking hold – a wet summer and weekends of no cricket.

The cricket club has had an excellent start to the season, despite of the downturn in the weather, with the First XI topping the table up until round eight (when the rain arrived) and the Second XI topping Division One in their first season in the second tier of local cricket. The Third XI have put in strong performances in Division Four Central, as they taken on many First and Second XIs, while the Fourths are providing much needed game and development time for the raft of youngsters at the club.

Despite all of these positive things the biggest achievement so far this summer is from the Girls side who, in only their second year of playing,

have surpassed their performance of last year, when they reached the second regional round of the Lady Taverers Under 15s T20, by reaching the regional final where they face J & G Meakin from Stoke on Trent. The bulk of the side is made up of players from Sileby and Barrow with their achievements having exceeded their own expectations as they beat Ketton Girls (from Rutland) in the first round, Charlbury (from Oxfordshire) and West Bridgfordians (from Nottingham) on route to their final date with what is expected to be a strong J & G Meakin side.

Girls cricket is taking off across the country and in Leicestershire too, with the Loughborough Lightning taking part in the first Women's Super League with Australian star Ellyse Perry signed up to appear for the Lightning, and the expectation is that the game will go from strength to strength both locally and nationally. With the Lightning franchise being established, they have also put their name to the newly formed girls Lightning League with local clubs being encouraged to enter a team.

While the current crop of girls are doing extremely well we're also looking to expand the girls section and are always on the lookout for new players. The girls train on a Thursday evening at our Mill Lane ground with the sessions beginning at 6pm. If your daughter is interested in taking up cricket then contact our Academy Chairman Mark Barber on 07443 229804 or via email at **girlscricket@silebytown.co.uk**.

Even with it being the 'height of summer' plans are well underway for our big winter event – our bonfire night fireworks display as we look to build on the massive success of last year.

A huge thank you to everyone who came out to support us and enjoy the fireworks – we hope you enjoyed it and moreover hope that you'll be joining us on Friday 4 November for the 2016 version when Celestial Fireworks Displays will once again be back with what promises to be a bigger and better display. Our thanks also go to Mark Swatland of Costcutter Sileby for his continued support of the club by sponsoring the big finale.

Details on how and when you can get your tickets will be released closer to the time – look out for the posters around the village or visit us online at **silebytown.co.uk** for updates along the way. We look forward to seeing you there.

As with each year we commit to making a donation to a good cause from within the village. Last year's display saw a donation being made to Alex's Wish. Alex is a nine-year-old from our Academy system who has Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy, which is a muscle wasting disease that affects one in 3,500 boys. There is currently no cure or effective treatment without serious side effects and those affected rely on the use of a wheelchair in their early teens and are paralysed by their late teens.

Chairman Nigel Kinch presented a £250 donation to Andy, Alex's dad, on behalf of Alex's Wish, which is a charity set up to help raise money for research to help bring about new treatments and to help find a cure for Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy. You can find out more information about Alex's Wish by visiting their website at **alexswish.co.uk** or their Facebook page at **[facebook.com/alexswishcharity1](https://www.facebook.com/alexswishcharity1)**

We're now looking for a new cause to support at our 2016 display – if you know of a good cause within the village that is in need of our support please let us know at **fireworks@silebytown.co.uk** – we'll be delighted to hear from you.

Wow, what a year it has been at Highgate Primary! Since I started as the full time head teacher in January we have achieved such a lot. This is thanks to the dedication and hard work of our pupils, school councillors, staff members and parents.



We have started some initial changes to the school building including making it more secure and safer for the children as well as putting in new fire doors between classrooms, creating separate classrooms in the main building and developing a nurture area. Friends In Support of Highgate (FISH) have also renovated the outdoor quadrangle to make it a beautiful outdoor classroom for everyone to enjoy. It is once again being well used and is a bright and inviting space to work in. We have also introduced a new rewards and rules system which is clear for everyone to use and

understand and have joined a child-led Character Education project with 19 other schools across Leicestershire to raise the positivity and resilience of our children. This is impacting upon the children's drive to achieve more. We are also increasing our involvement within our community. This has included supporting Sileby Community Library in their Harry Potter Days (producing some excellent writing for them to display in the library itself) and encouraging our Year 3s to become active members of the library with regular visits to borrow books. We have strengthened links with St Mary's Church, holding an Easter Service for the first time in the church this March which, like our Carol Service, was well attended by parents. Our choir opened the Sileby Gala this year being introduced by Radio Leicester's Jo Haywood, singing beautifully and over the summer we have linked with the church to provide a holiday club.

New for this year in music, we have successfully piloted a Rock Band workshop with our Y5 pupils in addition to continuing to offer guitar tuition for our Year 4s. In addition to the ever popular Breakfast Club, we have trialled the new Little Apples After School Club and will increase the extended school wrap around care we offer for our families from September until 6pm.

The children have benefited from a range of visits across the school including a Year 6 residential to Caythorpe in September and the Year 4 visit to Hunstanton, visits to Leicester Space Centre, the Jewry Centre, Leicester Outdoor Pursuits Centre, Beacon Hill Country Park (to undertake survival skills), Beaumanor Hall and Leicester's Warning Zone. We have also welcomed a range of visitors into school including British Ice-Skater, Joseph Buckland, Olympic Torch Bearer, John Noble, The Rainforest Man, Mad Science, an Anglo Saxon warrior, Olympic swimmer Joe Roebuck and Leicester Riders player, Harrison Gamble joined in the fun at our summer fair.

We are always looking at ways to involve the local community in our work and would welcome suggestions. If you have children who are approaching school age and would like to make an appointment to visit the school, we would be more than happy to show you around. Follow us on Twitter to find out more about the good things we are doing... @HighgateSileby

Those brightly-coloured figures, clad in high-viz jackets, peering over the sides of motorway bridges, intently watching the traffic - or sitting at the side of the road apparently doing nothing - what on earth are they up to?

This week, while talking to Pete Campbell, I found out! After a break of three years, Pete has been welcomed back to the committee of Talk@Sileby - and I was interested to know more about him, and what he had been doing during the time he had been away from Sileby.

To begin at the beginning, Pete was born in Mountsorrel, the son of a Sileby girl and a Scot exiled to Cossington in WW2. When Pete was six weeks old the family travelled to Lanarkshire, which was to be their home for the next four years. By 1950 heavy engineering work had become scarce, so the family, now four in number, returned to live with Pete's maternal grandparents in Sileby. Happily, they found work, for his mother it was in the family firm (E. Chaplin & Son, Shoemakers) and his dad at Newbold & Burton. (Jimmy's!)

When he left school, Pete took up an electrical apprenticeship at Melody Mills. A pretty Mountsorrel lass working in the Winding Department caught his eye - but he wasn't the only lad to notice the lady! His rival suggested a bet of half a crown that **he** would be able to get the first date! *(two shillings and six pence, twenty-five pence in our new money, it doesn't sound much but at that time it was about the price of a half a gallon of petrol)* Happily for him, Janice favoured Pete; they were married in 1968, when Pete was 21 and a qualified Maintenance Electrician at Melody. (Incidentally, the bet was never honoured!)

(While on the subject of Melody Mills, Pete told me a tale about the colleague who lost the tip of a finger while operating his machine; when he returned to work his workmates asked him how the accident had happened - "Like this" he said, demonstrating - promptly cutting the tip off another finger!)

Home for the newly weds was a rather basic rented cottage on Barrow Road; after the birth of their daughter they rented a cottage from "Melody". Eventually the Bank of M & D lent the family the deposit for a Jelson house; three bedrooms, a proper bathroom - *and* central heating - Mrs and Mrs Pete Campbell and family were in clover!

By 1973 Pete was feeling in need of a change - he had passed his driving test and realised that he loved driving - now all he needed was a car! The solution was to find a job which provided a car - as a fully qualified and experienced Electrical Maintenance Engineer, this wasn't too difficult. Installing and maintaining car washes proved to be a job which offered everything- the all important car, meeting people, travelling around the country - and variety, no two days were the same. He loved this job, but after 27 years (and approaching the age of 55) he was looking around for a new challenge.

The family had become keen caravanners (and acquired two golden retrievers). As members of the Camping and Caravanning Club they had enjoyed visiting sites around the country - so when they applied to become

Trainee Site Wardens Pete and Janice had a good idea of what was involved. They were posted to a site near Woodall Spa (Lincolnshire) – alternating with another couple they were they were responsible for welcoming campers, and sorting out their problems! - keeping the site tidy and clean, grass cutting, running the shop – and the sometimes unenviable tasks of keeping the loos flushing and the basins and showers clean.

The underground sewage pump needed some attention – while he was bringing it to the surface for repair it started to pump – Pete had omitted to switch off the power before moving it. The onlookers, (who had been offering much helpful advice) beat a hasty retreat as a figure covered in raw sewage climbed out of the manhole!

At the end of the season they had to decide if they wanted to continue as Wardens in the following year – optimistically they hoped to be offered a small site in Scotland, sadly this was not to be – a Plan B was needed.

Pete bought a van, found a lawn-mower at an auction and started to do gardening and general maintenance jobs locally, as well as taking on various jobs further afield when available. There followed ten years of roller-coaster uncertainty – one day he would be grass-cutting or fixing a fence in Sileby – the next day working with a shop-fitting team in Manchester or Bristol or delivering a package to London. The variety suited him, but inevitably there were lean times, with no work at all.

However, self-employment gave him the freedom to plan his days, and find time to indulge his passion for local history. He began photographing interesting buildings and curious features – and, realising that much was being lost when buildings were demolished, he began to check planning applications to see if an interesting building was endangered. Camera at the ready, he visited a threatened building as soon as possible to record another bit of Sileby history for posterity. On Friday afternoons he would visit auction rooms, looking for local memorabilia.

Pete and Janice now owned a big static caravan on a riverside site near Boston – this was to be a retirement home – in 2011, on Pete's 65th birthday they sold their bungalow and moved in. However, it was always at the back of their minds that they would eventually return to Sileby, which they did in 2014. The three missing years have been explained!

Retired – but has Pete put his feet up? No way! Together with Eric Wheeler he has been involved in mounting four Local History Exhibitions, displaying archive and contemporary photographs of Sileby and Sileby folk, maps and memorabilia. He's re-joined the Talk@Sileby team, he's learning to play the acoustic guitar – and continues to be Mr Fix-it for his family! Every day he walks 3 or 4 miles, and once a week joins a group of friends at Cafe19 where they set the world to rights.

Those high-viz jackets? The folk wearing them are conducting surveys for the Department of Transport, recording the numbers of vans, cars, lorries, articulated vehicles and other road users on a section of road or motorway. Pete, in his retirement, has definitely not yet put his feet up! One particular challenge set by the DoT was to record the numbers of passengers getting on and off trains arriving at Birmingham New Street. Arriving every ten minutes, including at the morning and evening rush hours – a challenge indeed for the team.

SILEBY PARISH COUNCIL – NEIGHBOURHOOD YOUTH ACTIVATOR

Sileby Parish Council has devised this new role and is looking to employ a 'Neighbourhood Youth Activator' for the village. This is a unique role for a highly motivated individual with an excellent ability to enthuse and engage with young people. This person will be empowered to develop and deliver forward-thinking ideas to engage and inspire young people in our village to take part in positive activities, perhaps sports based, arts based and cultural. We are hoping they will act as a village champion for youth engagement on behalf of the Parish Council and use this role to collaborate with a range of partners, to bring new opportunities and benefits to the village and its catchment.

Working together with the different clubs in the village we hope the Youth Activator will develop a relationship which will have a positive impact on the youth of the village.

SILEBY PARISH COUNCIL – CHAIRMAN'S REPORT YEAR ENDING 30 APRIL 2016

I was delighted to have been re-appointed Chairman last year for a fourth term and it has been a privilege and a pleasure to have chaired the meetings of the Parish Council this past year and I wish to thank Mrs Betty Crick for her support as Deputy Chairman.

At the beginning of September 2015 we welcomed three newly co-opted members to the Council - Mr Dennis Collins, Mrs Julie Walton and Mrs Pauline Skorik.

The Cemetery Keeper, Mr Neil Henfrey retired at the end of December last year and was replaced by Mr Michael Pendery at the beginning of January this year.

The Sileby Gala was a great success – the weather was great and a lot of people turned out to support this event – well done to all who gave their time freely to help make this a great success.

On 30 August Sileby Town Football Club invited us to their Open Day at their new ground at the top of Seagrave Road. On behalf of Sileby Parish Council I presented them with a plaque and a clock for their new Clubhouse, in recognition of being crowned Everards Brewery Senior League Champions; we wish them continued success.

On 27 September I attended the Mayor's Civic Service at Christ Church Rothley with Mr Paul Murphy and on Sunday, 18 October Mrs Betty Crick and I attended the County Service for Leicestershire held at Leicester Cathedral; we were also fortunate to see Richard III's tomb.

On 3 November 2015 Paul Murphy and I attended the Annual Leicestershire Police Intercultural Social Evening at HQ in Enderby; a most enjoyable evening.

The Remembrance Service was held on Sunday, 10 November at the War Memorial in the Park. As last year, the pavilion was opened to serve refreshments after the service for all who attended. A PA system was hired again this year and this helped make the occasion more audible.

In December a lot of people turned out for the annual switching on of the Christmas Lights which were turned on by local serviceman Leigh Bland. The choir from Highgate School sang carols on Martin's Walk, and a magician proved very popular with everyone. The guides once again arranged games in the Community Centre and children really enjoyed taking part. Again, we received a lot of positive feedback from residents about how good the lights look; they did look amazing and our thanks to The Voltage Company for all their hard work in erecting the lights and the Christmas Tree in the Church Yard. A good night was had by all.

The Parish Council organised a trip for the residents of Sileby to the Imperial War Museum on Monday, 14 December 2015 - everyone had a most enjoyable day! It was unfortunate that this day coincided with the opening of Sileby Community Library as quite a few councillors went on the London trip and so could not attend this event.

I would like to take this opportunity to say a big thank you to all those people involved in 'saving our library' – especially to Sarah Freeman, Chairman of the Management Committee. Also, many thanks to the volunteers who are helping to run the library, as without their support this could not happen. In recognition of all the hard work Sarah Freeman has put into the transfer of Sileby Library from Leicestershire County Council and with her involvement with the Guides, it gives me great pleasure, on behalf of Sileby Parish Council to present her with the Sileby Community Award 2015/16 - many congratulations Sarah, well deserved. Monday, 14 March was 'Fly a Flag for the Commonwealth' Day – this took place at St Mary's Church and it was to celebrate the true value of the Commonwealth as an increasingly multi-cultural world seeks unity, understanding and tolerance.

We have had various works done around the village:- a new path at the cemetery, a new roof on the building in the Garden of Remembrance, clearing of certain areas in the Memorial Park

Sileby Boxing Academy was successful in applying for a grant from the Parish Council towards the cost of subsidising training sessions for low income families for youths under 16 who live in the parish; I believe the Boxing Club do a great job in promoting health and leisure through sporting activities and must be congratulated for making it such a success.

The Parish Council's External Auditor once again provided an unqualified audit report for last year, reassuring the general public of our professional and financial competence.

In closing my Annual Report I would like to place on record my thanks and appreciation to all those Parish Councillors who give so much of their time freely to undertake their duties as Parish Councillors during the course of the year.

Thanks to Sports Ground Maintenance for all their hard work in keeping the village looking so nice, especially the Memorial Park.

I would like to extend thanks to the Clerk and staff of Sileby Parish Council for their continuing efforts to provide top quality service and facilities for the residents of the village. My grateful thanks also to the Clerk and Deputy Clerk for their support during my time as Chairman.

Thank you to all of you for attending this evening.

Fiona Hughes Chairman Sileby Parish Council
14.04.16

BECOME A PARISH COUNCILLOR

Sileby Parish Council currently has three Councillor vacancies that they are looking to fill, and are asking for residents of Sileby to consider joining the Council, where together with their fellow Councillors they can help to make a difference to their community. You may have seen the advertisements for this before and thought it to be of interest, but were unsure of exactly what would be required from you to be able to fulfil the role and so I have included some FAQ's below to assist you in making a decision to become part of the Parish Council.

What is a Parish Council? A parish council is a local authority that makes decisions on behalf of the people in the parish. As it is the authority closest to the people, Parish Councils are invariably the first place people will go with concerns or ideas. For this reason they are a vital part of any community.

Why become a Parish Councillor?: If you've never been to a Parish Council meeting before, you may be forgiven for thinking that parish councillors are a group of (probably older) people who meet now and then in a draughty village hall. If, however, you live in a community where something 'big' has happened, you'll know that when people in the community need support and guidance, it is sometimes the Parish Council that is turned to.

By becoming a Parish Councillor you become someone your community will look to for help, guidance and support? A community leader with the power to influence decisions for the benefit of the people you serve. Seeing your community change for the better, as a result of decisions you have helped to make, is something that can give you a sense of achievement and pride.

What decisions do Parish Councils make? Parish Councils make all kinds of decisions on issues that affect the local community. Probably the most common topics that Parish Councils get involved with are planning matters (they are statutory consultees), managing open spaces and campaigning for and delivering better services and facilities.

It's true to say that on their own, Parish Councils have limited powers to make decisions. But they do have the ability to negotiate with, and the power to influence, those other organisations that do make the final decisions (such as the borough council, health authorities, police etc).

In this respect Parish Councils are extremely powerful. The organisations that make the final decisions know that a Parish Council gives the best reflection of how a community feels about something, and its views will be taken seriously.

How much time does it take up?: The Council meets twice a month for the main Council meeting, to which members of the public are also invited, and the meetings may last two or three hours, depending on the agenda set for the meeting to discuss.,

How long does a Parish Councillor serve for? Once elected, Parish Councillors sit on the council for a maximum of four years. If they then want to stay in the post they can stand for re-election. However, you don't have to wait for the elections; you can put yourself forward for co-option onto the Council at any time between elections.

Am I eligible to be a Parish Councillor? To stand for election on a parish council, you must:

be a UK or commonwealth citizen, or; be a citizen of the Republic of Ireland, or; be a citizen of another Member state of the European Union; be a least 18 years old.

To be eligible to stand for an election for a particular parish, you must: be an elector of the parish, or; for the whole of the previous 12 months have occupied (as owner or tenant) land or other premises in the parish, or; during the previous 12 months have worked in the parish (as your principal or only place of work), or; for the whole of the previous 12 months lived in the parish or within three miles of the parish boundary.

What powers do parish councils have?: They have a wide range of powers which essentially relate to local matters, such as looking after community buildings, open space, allotments, play areas, and much more. The Council also has the power to raise money through taxation, the precept. The precept is the Parish Council's share of the council tax. The precept demand goes to the billing authority, the borough council, which collects the tax for the Parish Council.

Parish Duties: Sileby Parish Council has 15 Councillors who stand for election every four years. The duties and functions of a Parish Council are many and varied. All meetings are open to the public and there is a forum before the start of the meeting at which members of the public can raise concerns and ask questions. There is also an annual meeting which all parishioners are invited to attend. All meetings are advertised on the council notice boards and the Council's website. Residents can bring to the attention of the Parish Council anything that concerns them, either directly or through the Clerk. If matters raised are not the responsibility of the Parish Council, the Clerk can bring them to the attention of the proper authority.

Don't take our word for it!: The best way to find out what it's like to be a Parish Councillor is to talk to someone who's doing it now. Come along to a Parish Council meeting, or speak to one of our Councillors and find out what they think of the job.

If you are interested in applying to become a Parish Councillor, please contact the Clerk on Tel: 01509 813075 or email: clerk@silebyparishcouncil.org.uk
We look forward to hearing from you.

SILEBY PARISH COUNCIL – COMMUNITY AWARD 2015



This year the Chairman presented the Community Award to Mrs Sarah Freeman for her involvement with the Guides but mainly in recognition for all her hard work involved with transferring Sileby Library from Leicestershire County Council. Councillor Mrs Hughes congratulated Sarah for this achievement and said it gave her great pleasure to present Sarah with this award, very well deserved!

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Memories of The Futurist Cinema Aka Bert's Bug House

Whilst in my early teens I was keen on Rock and Roll music and Jiving, going to the Essoldo dances and the YWCA at Loughborough.

After leaving school and starting work I got to know some of the Sibley lads. They introduced me to the dances held on Thursday and Sunday evenings at "Bert's". The dances at the Cinema were run by Geoff Baum and Harry Heaps. Harry also had the garage on Cossington Road. I was acquainted with Harry as he was a customer of my Fathers who supplied goods to the Motor Trade. I would often chat to him in the Kiosk at the entrance to the Cinema, and would go next door to the Swan to fetch him a pint. I would also look after the Kiosk whilst he went next door himself.

The main function of course at Bert's was the Cinema and on Thursdays the cans of film would be delivered for Fridays and Saturdays showings. The Projectionists were Gordon Humphries and Ian Dakin who I was also acquainted with as he was a customer in my Fathers shop. I would go into the Projection room to talk to him. I was fascinated by the whole set up of processing the film. They came from the previous Cinema straight off the Projector and were "backwards". They had to be rewound onto reels before 'showing'. This was quite a lengthy process as there were about 8 or 10 reels to get through. I was taught by them how to set up a Projector and strike up the Arcs, which provided the intense light needed to shine the film on the screen. Nothing automatic here! The Arcs had to be constantly monitored and adjusted during showing! I was also taught when to switch from Projector 1 to Projector 2 as the reels emptied and at the end of the showing they would be rewound back again for the next nights entertainment.

Eventually I became standby Projectionist, as Gordon or Ian weren't always available. I usually showed Saturday afternoon matinees which were run by Lorna Baum. Geoff's Wife and Harry Heaps Wife who's name I've forgotten? Friday and Saturdays films were mostly the major titles of the day and a short 'B Movie'. Monday nights were 'X Rated' films. Frankenstein, Dracula and other offerings from the Hammer House of Horrors. On film nights some sort of order was created upstairs on the balcony by Brian Harold nicknamed 'Torchy' by the Clientele and downstairs by Jeff Lark and his then Girlfriend Pam Trasler. Which brings us back to the dances. Geoff used to put the records on for the dances.

Bert's was also famous for the Coffee Dances which were on the Bank Holiday Mondays at Easter and Whitsun. There was also the Christmas Dance Parties (There is a Film of the Same) . It was about the Christmas before I started going to Bert's as I don't appear on it.

As time moved on I became more interested in making music rather than listening and said goodbye to the Cinemas. I look back fondly at the times I had there and the Friendships that were made there and still continue to this day.

I met up with the crowd from Bert's at a Party given by Geoff's Daughter (who ran the Old School Restaurant) in 1993. The live band as advertised on the ticket included myself on Bass Guitar.

Stuart 'FRED' Faulkner



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WE WILL REMEMBER THEM

Soldiers who died in the Great War as named on the Sileby War Memorials in Chronological order.

Men Who died 100 years ago.

**2nd OCT
1916**

**PRIVATE ERNEST NEWBY
53232, 167th COY, Machine Gun Corps (Infantry)
24942 Leicestershire Regiment**

1901 Census age 8 living **Barrow Road, Sileby.**

1911 Census age 19 living **Barrow Road, Sileby. Shoe Hand.**

1916 Entered France? Not on card, No Leics regiment mentioned on card.

St Marys Mag:- Only son of Mr & Mrs William Newby, 174 **Barrow Road, Sileby.**

Awarded:- British War & Victory Medals.

**31st OCT ABLE SEAMAN JOSEPH HUBBARD (Age 24)
1916 or 1918 SS/4578, H.M.S. "Queen"**

1901 Census age 5 living **Barrow Road, Sileby.**

1911 Census age 15 living **Barrow Road, Sileby.**

1916 CWGC: J Hubbard died age 24 31.10.1916 remembered with honour Taranto town cemetery extension, **ITALY.**

1918 Royal Navy and Royal Marine War Graves Roll (Birth date 3rd Oct 1895)

Joseph Hubbard died 31.10.1918 Teignmouth Cemetery (no age)

1918 31st Oct SS4578 Joseph Hubbard died of Lobar pneumonia and cardiac failure in 70th General Hospital, **TARANTO.**

Son of William & Frances Hubbard, 178 **Barrow Road, Sileby.**

Awarded:- 1915 Star, British War & Victory Medals.

**7th DEC CORPORAL WILLIAM GAMBLE
1916 2266 4th Bn. Leicestershire Regiment.**

1911 Census age 14 living Countesthorpe.

1915 Entered France in March.

1916 July, Mr & Mrs Gamble 43 **Albion Rd.** Told of William, awarded Military Medal.

1916 July, his brother Reuben killed in France.

Son of William and Mary Gamble 43 **Albion Rd, Sileby.**

SURVIVER

ROBERT.C.WARD

Did you know him?

He was around until 1975

**CORPORAL ROBERT CLIFTON WARD
10039 Leicestershire Regiment
262703 Labour Corps (Acting Corporal)**

1901 Census age 5 living **Swan Street, Sileby.**

1911 Census age 15 living **The Banks, Sileby.**

Tiger site: Fought on the Somme: While in the trenches he moved along firing towards the enemy to make them believe there were many men in the trench. He returned home to be hospitalised as he was shell-shocked. He subsequently returned to **Sileby.**

1918 Polling List living **10 Cemetery Road, Sileby.**

1920 Robert married Florence Taylor.

1928 Polling List living **25 Little Church Lane, Sileby.**

1940 Living **180 Barrow Road, Sileby.**

Heroes Father and Son



Driver Joseph Yates

T/294129 11th Army Horse Transport Coy
Royal Army Service Corps
Died 29th December 1918 Age 41

Son of Thomas and Ann Yates, **Sibley**
Husband of Edith A Yates,
10 Seagrave Rd.

1879 3rd May Married Edith Annie Porter,
Sibley Church.
1901 Living **King St** with Edith, 2 children.
1911 Living **Seagrave Rd** Edith, 3 kids.
1915 6th Dec Attested.
1917 5th Feb Mobilized.
1917 Disembarked Havre from SS Queen
Alexandra
1918 16th Jan Forfeits 2 days pay –
Disobedience of G.R.O 430 viz trotting.
4 G/S Horses attached to AG wagon.
Corpl Hill: Was proceeding to canal I
heard someone groaning in a shed. I
found Dr Yates in great pain he said he
had a drink from one of the Chinese.
1918 29th Dec died at 22nd casualty
clearing station, France.
Cause of death: irritant poisoning.
*'In my opinion this man was on duty and
was not to blame'* E.H.Thousdale Major
COMMDG.No.X1, army aux, (horse) coy



Able Seaman Joseph Walter Yates

R/1053 Hawke Bn.R.N.Div.
Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve
Died 25th August 1918 Age 19

Son of Joseph & Edith Yates,
10 Seagrave Rd.

1899 Born **Sibley.**
1901 Living **King St**, age 2.
1911 Living **Seagrave Rd**, age 12.
1915 6th April Posted to 5th Leicestershire
Regiment as 3949 Pte Joseph Walter Yates.
1915 10th April Discharged having made a
misstatement of age.
1917 10th April Entered draft for BEF.
1917 1st Dec Rating A.B.
1917 10th March To Hawke Bn. BEF.
1918 27th March Joined Hawke Bn. BEF
1918 Hawke 34. Joined Battn 7th April.

Father and Son both awarded: British and
Victory Medals.

Thank you to:
Geoff and Janice Preston (N) Yates for
Photos and information.

geoffreyrose@yahoo.co.uk

BY THE TIME YOU READ THIS.....

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Click: SILEBY FACES

Click: First letter of Surname

Scroll down to your surname and away you go.....

.....
If you have any photos like this or family groups weddings etc



**Do you have a clear copy of this photo I could copy? of ladies standing on the corner of Ratcliffe Rd and Mucky Lane (Highgate Rd). I know it was a chip shop in the early 50's (Hubbles)
What does it say on the hut?**

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