

talk @ Sileby

Village Newsletter

Issue 14 Winter 2005



www.sileby-village.co.uk

THE WHITE SWAN

Swan Street, Sileby

Christmas Menu 2005

Available from November 29th

Starters

- Chicken and vegetable soup - £3.50
Melon and orange cocktail -£3.95
Prawn cocktail -£3.95
Deep fried prawns in garlic and herb breadcrumbs -£4.50
Parma ham, goats cheese and walnut salad -£4.50
Hot potato skins coated in black pepper with a garlic mayonnaise dip -£3.95

Main Courses

- Roast turkey breast with bacon, sausage and stuffing - £9.95
Roast duck breast with an orange marmalade and whisky sauce - £11.95
Roast leg of lamb with rosemary and garlic served with spiced apricot compote -£10.75
Beef cobbler - diced beef with onions and mushrooms cooked in Guinness
With a stilton scone topping -10.50
Pan-fried sirloin steak in red wine -£13.50
Pan-fried sirloin steak with black pepper, cream and red wine £14.50
Fish crumble — smoked baddock with spinach and prawns in a cream sauce with a garlic and herb breadcrumb topping £10.50
Deep-fried goujons of cod in lime and herb breadcrumbs -£9.95
Salmon and prawn parake with a cream and cheese sauce -£9.75
Tomato, garlic and Mediterranean vegetable pasta -£9.50
Hot tomato, pepper and goat's cheese tartlet - £9.50

Choice of puddings from the blackboard -£3.95

Coffee-£1.75

Full meals, bar snacks and a "Specials" board

Food served Tuesday—Saturday lunchtimes

12 Noon—1.30pm

Tuesday—Saturday evenings

7.00pm—9.00pm

01509 814832

Forward

Welcome to the Christmas 2005 edition of Sileby's community magazine. I would like to welcome Claire Tyson to the editorial committee as our new advertising manager. Also Roy Brown has stepped back into the vacant position of co-ordinator to keep us on the straight and narrow.

I would also like to thank all those people who have contributed articles to this edition, without them there would be a lot of blank paper. We are always on the lookout for items to publish, so if you have anything then please get in touch.

An often overlooked group are the ladies and gentlemen who freely give up some time to distribute the magazine to every house in the village. The very fact you are reading this today shows that they have once again done an excellent job. They have all our best wishes and thanks for a job well done.

I often hear comments about the young people of Sileby causing problems, this is usually followed by the comment that they have nothing to do. Well in this issue we highlight a number of activities and groups that are here to give them something more rewarding to do. However, a recurring theme is that more support is needed to help out, so if you can spare some of your time to help others then please get in touch with those people who are out there trying to make life a little less boring for our youngsters.

Next Issue will be Spring 2006. Copy and advert deadline is 18th February 2006.

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



Neighbourhood Watch

Sileby now has a new Neighbourhood Watch manager, Mrs Mel Fryer has taken on the job of organising monthly meetings which take place on the 1st Tuesday of each month in the Community Centre (Primary Room) from 7.30pm. New members are welcome to attend. For information please contact Leicestershire Police on 0116 222 2222.

Front Cover Picture: The winner of the Best Community Garden contest—Lovett Court. The other winners can be found on page 31
Photo: Lionel Blower

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If you would like to give your feedback, articles or letters these can be sent to the Editor or you can now use the internet forum at

www.sileby-village.co.uk

The advertising rates for talk@Sileby are listed below

Quarter Page £30

Half Page £50

Full Page £80

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

PLEASE PLEASE HELP US



I am Jackie Lewin and I've been running the group for 8 years, my other leader is Anita Sleath who has been here for 6 years. We meet at Highgate School on Tuesday evenings from 6-15 to 7-45 during term time.

At the moment we have 24 girls aged from 7-10 years with another 10 girls eager to join our group.

We currently have six groups, each group have a badge -Hedgehogs, Rabbits, Badgers and Moles. During the Autumn term most

of us go to Topstones in Cold Newton, we all have a great time there, also in December we go to the Pantomime.

The girls work towards badges for merit involving a variety of subjects from cooking to photography, creative crafts to horse riding.

At present myself and Anita are stretched to the limit, so please, please, please can someone please come along and give us some of your spare time. For this extra help no formal qualifications needed just enthusiasm.

Many, Many Thanks 2nd Sibley Brownies

Please contact us on 01509 814662



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SILEBY PARISH COUNCIL

Sileby Skateboard Park



Parish Council Leader Janet Harris and Councillor Rod Woodall officially opened the new skateboard facility in Sileby Park on a sunny Saturday 17th September and attended by Borough and Parish Councillors, Mr Rob Coburn, Parks and Open Spaces Development Officer, Charnwood Borough Council, and an enthusiastic group of young residents. Cheers are raised for the event before the youngsters gave a

demonstration of their skills to the crowd.

The new facility is the latest phase of the changes being made to the memorial park and it is hoped that it will give the youngsters many years of enjoyment. Some of the skaters present had helped the council with the design and Councillor Woodall thanked them for the valuable participation.

PUBLIC FOOTPATHS-OVERHANGING VEGETATION

Sileby Parish Council are receiving complaints about overhanging vegetation over public footpaths, from residential properties and are seeking the co-operation of residents to inspect their own boundaries and cut back vegetation where necessary to ensure there is no obstructions to the footpaths.

BEST GARDEN COMPETITION 2005

The winners of this year's garden competition are as follows: Rear Garden – Mr & Mrs Harris, Front Garden – Mr & Mrs Lewin, Best Feature Garden – Mr & Mrs Whitehouse, Best New Build Garden – Mr S Fowler, Best Non-Residential – Dudley Court and Mr Ralphs – Courtyard Garden. The presentation evening was held at Sileby Community Centre on 22nd August. It was an enjoyable evening and well attended by winners and finalists.

SILEBY COMMUNITY CENTRE

A new heating system has been installed, a false ceiling and new lighting in the Main Hall of the Community Centre. Further works to be carried out include a new kitchen. Anyone wishing to make a booking please contact the Parish Council Office on 01509 813075.

EVENTS AT SILEBY COMMUNITY CENTRE

Trafalgar Ball – 29th October 2005.

Junior Talent Show – Final to be held in November

ANNUAL SWITCHING ON OF THE FESTIVE LIGHTS

This will be held on Friday 2nd December 2005. The entertainment will commence at 5.00pm on Martins Walk. With a short carol service starting at 6.30pm when the lights will be switched on. A Victorian Market will be held in the Sports Hall at the Community Centre and Refreshments and Mince Pies will be served. There will be street entertainers, children's fair rides and Father Christmas will attend.

PARKING ISSUES

Illegal Parking continues to be a major issue particularly in the centre of the Village. Please could offending vehicle users be more considerate to other road users and pedestrians when illegally parking on King Street, High Street, Brook Street and Swan Street.

COST OF VANDALISM/ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR ON AREAS UNDER THE RESPONSIBILITY OF SILEBY PARISH COUNCIL NOVEMBER 2004 – MAY 2005

The cost of vandalism/anti social behaviour is paid from the Parish Council Budget which is part of the Council Tax charges. Everyone in Sileby paying Council Tax pays for vandalism.

Memorial Park £607

TOTAL VANDALISM/ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR COSTS

£607

SILEBY PARISH COUNCIL POLICY

It is Sileby Parish Council's policy that no action is taken when correspondence or information is received anonymously.

Local charity gets colourful make over with the help of volunteers

Staff from 3M Health Care and residents of the Leonard Cheshire Foundation joined together for a BBQ in the sunshine to celebrate an enjoyable week of volunteering by employees from the Loughborough-based company.



The modern purpose-built residential facility in Sileby provides supported living and nursing care for its 16 disabled residents. Last week a team of 3M volunteers swapped their suits and lab coats for painter's overalls to give the dining and kitchen area a new lick of paint, whilst another team tackled a garden makeover in the grounds of the facility.

The residents' large dining area now has a fresh, brightly coloured decor and empty flowerbeds and borders have been transformed into a mass of botanical colour.

The local Wyevale Garden Centre at Rothley assisted 3M Health Care in devising an interesting planting scheme, especially suited to disabled residents, and kindly contributed towards the cost of plants. Volunteers accompanied some of the Leonard Cheshire residents to the garden centre to choose pots and bedding plants for decorating their patio, whilst Sileby resident Anne French supplied some additional plants, fresh from her garden. After a busy week with the paint brush and some hard graft in the garden, the volunteers were invited to join residents for a lunchtime BBQ to see their hard work appreciated by everyone living and working at the Leonard Cheshire facility.

The volunteers were taking part in the company's 3M 4Good programme, which gives every permanent employee the chance to do one day of voluntary work during company time.

"The dining room looks so much brighter and welcoming now and the garden is a fabulous transformation," said Sharron Pears, volunteer co-ordinator at the facility. "Our residents are already enjoying the new attractive environment, both inside and out.

"We would like to thank 3M Health Care for assisting us in the purchase of many of the new plants and the employees who so kindly volunteered their labour."

Among the decorators was Theresa Duggan, a training manager at 3M, and a resident of Sileby. "It's been really rewarding helping the Leonard Cheshire Unit which provides a valuable service for our local community" she said. "It was hard work, but the team spirit was high, and it is great to know that our efforts are making a difference."

3M 4Good

SILEBY YOUTH CLUB

Once again Sileby Youth Club re-opened its doors on Wednesday 4th May. This was made possible due to a handful of volunteers who recognised that Sileby had nothing in the way of facilities to offer our young people. At 7 o'clock armed with some free soft drinks, crisps and chocolate donated by local shops and loads of optimism, 25-35 young people turned up. Black Thunder from Leicester Sound made an appearance for a photo-shoot and gave out some freebies. So far so good. During that first evening the young people were asked what they wanted from their youth club. The replies were varied, but the majority wanted reassurance that the club would stay open for more than just a few months, they wanted a relaxed atmosphere (less like school) and a few pieces of equipment for entertainment i.e., (pool, table tennis, play station, computers and a few games), a place to chill out and be with their friends. These comments were all noted and the list fulfilled. So Wednesday night was youth club night but only for 4 weeks. They wanted more ! So now Wednesday 7-9 and Friday 7-10 became youth club nights. Membership had now reached an unbelievable 60 in only a few weeks with an age range of 10-18 year olds. But they still wanted more ! So by mid June the youth club was open Monday 7-9, Wednesday 7-9 and Friday 7-10. Running the club has been a steep learning curve for some of us. Defining between acceptable and unacceptable behaviour, language and general attitude. This all came to a head in mid August when the actions of a small minority (& they know who they are) forced the volunteers to make the decision to close the youth club on Fridays until an improvement in behaviour and attitude was made. This has now happened and we are now at the stage of re-opening on Friday evenings again. There have of course been some highs as well as lows. A trip to Alton Towers on 12th August was a great day out (for some more than others), and during the school holidays we were able to take some of the younger members swimming. A sponsored football match against the army is in the pipeline as is a Christmas disco on December 16th at the community centre. The members of the youth club wrote a letter to Complete Wasters of the village, who sorted out a deal to supply the youth club with 5 more up-to-date computers, of which 3 are now running Broadband and with the other 2 to follow shortly all thanks to Bill McDowell for his help, patience and time. The members also wrote to Jelsons , who are to supply a sign with the art work on it being designed by Ben from the youth club. We have had 3 visits from the local constabulary, but only for social purposes, to wander round and have a chat, join in with a game of pool etc. We have also had 1 visit from the community support officer who had a quick look round to see what we have to offer and we have had a visit from the transport police who gave an informative talk on the dangers of the railway with it being in close proximity to the youth club. With all things considered, lack of funds and limited facilities, Sileby youth club is still open and hopefully will stay so for a long time to come. What has been achieved so far is all down to people giving up their own free time and energy, the understanding of the young people of Sileby for making the best of what is available and of course the patience and understanding of Pat who uses the same building to run the playschool every morning. All that's left to say is a big thank you to every one who has played a part in the Sileby youth club being re opened and remaining open.

THANK YOU.

Sileby youth club desperately needs your help!

We would love to have some more volunteers to help run the club.

Come down and see us for a chat, Mon or Wed between 7pm-9pm, any help no matter how small would be appreciated.

We are also in desperate need of people who can help with the administration side of running the club, is there any one out there with book keeping skills that might be able to spare some of their time? Again please come along and speak to us.

SILEBY YOUTH CLUB CHRISTMAS DISCO

FRIDAY 16th DECEMBER

7.30pm- 10.30pm

AT SILEBY COMMUNITY CENTRE
TICKET ONLY



MEMBERS £1.50

NON MEMBERS £2.00

10 - 17 year olds only.

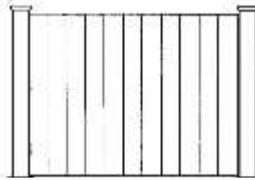
Tickets available from Sileby Youth Club
& Hetterley Associates , High St Sileby.

TJN GARDEN MAINTENANCE

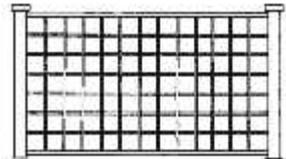
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Illegal parking in Sileby.

The Highway Code states quite clearly that it is an offence to park on a double yellow line at anytime. You can park on a single yellow line but not between the times stated on the yellow no waiting sign on a post nearby. If however you are picking up or dropping someone off or you have a disabled permit you are allowed to park for a short time. With regards to a disability permit you are entitled to park for up to 3 hrs with the permit and clock correctly displayed. You can also park on yellow lines to load and unload bulky objects but it is helpful if it can be done as quickly as possible.

The law regarding parking on zigzags within the limits of a pedestrian crossing is that you just don't do it. It is potentially dangerous to pedestrians who are crossing at that time. Anyone found parking on these zigzags will receive a £60.00 fine and 3 points on their licence from the police.

The limited waiting bays on King Street and High Street are for parking for up to 40 minutes, then non return within 20 minutes. This applies Mon to Sun between 8am to 8pm.

The vast majority of motorists in the area understand the law and both respect and understand that without the guidelines our roads would be quite chaotic. So why is it that a small minority of motorists who agree that it is wrong to illegally park and to cause inconvenience to other motorists often do just that and illegally park. The main problem in Sileby is parking outside Natwest bank on Barrow Road. It has been this way for many years now. People park to use the bank or the ATM or just to post a letter. This can cause major problems for passing vehicles and vehicles turning out of Mountsorrel lane.

Another problem is caused when people park on the single yellow line outside Tesco's on High Street to either shop or use the ATM. The road is too narrow and holds up passing traffic. It isn't fair when certain motorists choose to park long term in the limited waiting bays between 8am to 8pm. These bays are for shoppers who just wish to quickly do their business and move on. Particularly helpful for people who find walking a problem sometimes.

Whilst I am on patrol outside either Natwest bank or Tesco's it is unlikely people will park their cars unless they are entitled to do so. As it is physically impossible to be there 24/7 so I rely on the courtesy and honesty of the motorist when I'm not around. I have to deal with so many other issues in my job other than parking, so I cannot concentrate on parking issues as a traffic warden could.

I can and will issue parking fines as I see fit if it will deter illegal parking but it will more likely improve if the public respect the parking laws and park correctly. After all we must think about keeping the roads safe and free flowing to help everyone in Sileby.

Happy safe driving.

B Geeson Police Community Support Officer 6507 at Quorn LPU. Can be contacted by voicemail, phone 0116222 2222 and follow the instructions.

The Loughborough Community Chest

The Loughborough Community Chest was set up in 1969 by Councillor the Reverend James Thompson, who was the Mayor of Loughborough at that time. The purpose of the Trust is:

“the relief of poverty; the advancement of education; to supplement the funds of any charity already established or which may be established in the future for the benefit of the people of Loughborough; other charitable purposes for their general benefit”.

Since the Trust was set up, grants have been available to persons ordinarily resident in the Borough of Charnwood, or to groups, which benefit the people of the Borough. Applications, to be considered at bi-monthly meetings of the Trustees, can be made in writing to:

Mrs K Jamieson

Clerk to the Trustees

The Loughborough Welfare Trusts, 20 Churchgate, Loughborough,
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NEWS OF THE REDEVELOPMENT OF SILEBY METHODIST CHURCH

Most of you will have seen the for sale sign outside the school rooms in Swan street. Some of you might have heard what is going on, but for the rest of you read on.

In 2001 the church had its quinquennial report. This highlighted problems, from simple decorating to a new heating system and roof problems, not one room did not have a problem and estimates for repairs were £50,000-£60,000. It was also realised that to meet the new disability access and facilities rules a number of changes were required to the building. The church council decided to appoint an architect to come up with an idea to modernise the church plus resolve all the access problems. After a while the plan was presented and it showed a very different church. The main change was the inside of the church was turned through 180° with the removal of the pews. The main entrance would be at the side into a new foyer. A coffee lounge would be created together with a new kitchen. The existing main entrance would be replaced by an engraved glass panel with a small garden in front of it. This plan was accepted by the church council together with the cost of £310,000 and the decision to sell the school room to part fund the project. We then embarked on a major fund raising project. This has included pancake lunches, quiz nights, beetle drives, trips to Skegness, strawberry cream teas, bar-b-ques, a recipe book, containing recipes from famous people (some are still available at £3.50) together with the weekly village value and coffee morning on Thursdays. To help the funds we are to hold a gift day on 12th November, which will see a charity auction taking place at 2pm, where items no longer required in the church, including the pews and the organ, plus promises will be auctioned. It is expected to start the project in the spring with completion in the autumn. Once completed we hope that the church will have more use by the community, such as parent and toddler group, lunch club, a centre for fair trade goods to name a few. So please help our fund raising events so that we will be able to realise our dream and if you wish to find out or wish to make a donation you can contact the Rev. Jane Carter on 01509812302.





Syston and District Operatic Society

50th ANNIVERSARY FOR SADOS!

It's hard to believe that its 50 years since Syston & District Operatic Society began. To commemorate this auspicious occasion we will be holding a Reunion evening for all past members of the Society on Friday, 25th November at 7.30p.m. at the Old Chapel, Chapel Street, Syston. We will be sending out invitations for this to every one on our 'past members list' but if anyone reading this article was a member, or knows someone who was, please contact us as we may not have your up to date address and we don't want to miss anyone. We would like to get as many people who have been connected with SADOS to come on the 25th to make it a memorable occasion. We'll be putting together a display of photos of past productions, so if you can provide any, please let us know (we promise to be very careful with them). If you have photos in albums, please bring them to the Reunion and they can be put out for everyone to look at.

Also as part of our celebrations we will be performing 'Aladdin' from 8th — 12th November at Wreake Valley College. This was one of the first shows performed by SADOS and will be a fantastic night out for all the family. If you would like to attend the Reunion or order tickets for 'Aladdin', please ring Rachel on 0116 2694879.



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Church



News

St. Gregory's R.C Church

Christmas Eve, Saturday 24th December

6pm	Christmas Mass	Sibleby
9pm	Christmas Night Mass	Syston

Christmas Day, Sunday 25th December

9am	Christmas Dawn Mass	Sibleby
11am	Christmas Day Mass	Syston

St Mary's Sibleby, All Saints Cossington *and* All Saints Seagrave

Sunday 18th December

9am	Morning Worship	Cossington
9am	Holy Communion	Seagrave
10.30am ...	All Age Communion Service	St. Mary's
5.30pm	Carol Service	Cossington
6.30pm	Evening Worship	St Mary's
7.30pm	Carol Service	Seagrave

Wednesday 21st December

4.15pm	Christingle	St. Mary's
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Christmas Eve, Saturday 24th December

4pm	Children's Carols Service	St. Mary's
6.30pm	Carols by Candlelight	St. Mary's
11.30pm ...	Midnight Communion	St. Mary's

Christmas Day, Sunday 25th December

9am	Holy Communion	Cossington
9am	Christmas Praise	Seagrave
9.30am	Family Service	St. Mary's
10.15am ...	Short Communion Service	St Mary's

Sileby Methodist Church

Monday 12th December

7.30pm Ladies Circle Carol Service

Sunday 18th December

9.15 am Arise All Age Worship

10.45am Communion Service

4pm Carol Service

Christmas Eve, Saturday 24th December

4pm Christingle Service

Christmas Day, Sunday 25th December

9.30am Christmas Day United Service at Wysall or Barrow

Sileby Baptist Church

Sunday 18th December

6.30pm Family Christmas Carol Service

Christmas Day, Sunday 25th December

10.30am Christmas Day Family Service



A very happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year
From
The Churches in Sileby, Cossington and Seagrave



Sileby Neighbourhood Watch

A burglary in your home is a cause of great distress to the whole household. In order to avoid such a thing happening to you or your neighbours here are a few facts to bear in mind.

Fact One. Most burglars will visit a number of houses in the same area before selecting a target.

Fact Two. Visits will often involve knocking at a number of houses to find out if anyone is home.

Fact Three. While burglars are visiting houses to find a vulnerable target, they are open to being caught — but only if somebody calls the police.

If you go out, even for a short time, make sure all your ground floor windows and doors are securely shut and locked. When answering the door, always check the callers' identity —if in doubt, call the police. Do not let strangers into your house without proven identification. If you see somebody visiting a number of houses in your street and don't recognise them as a regular visitor, call the police. If you have a suspicious caller at your house, e.g. asking for somebody who doesn't live there, call the police. If you see anyone acting suspiciously and you think they are still in the area, contact the police by dialling 999. If they are no longer in the area, report it on Leicester (0116)2222222.

County Councillor's Report—Richard Shepherd

I should like to thank the Editor of “talk@Sileby” for giving me this opportunity to let readers know about some current topics and also know how they can contact me.

I was elected last May as the County Councillor for Sileby and The Wolds, and have been working with your other local representatives on the Borough and Parish Councils, and with County Council officers. Bus services and traffic management are among the subjects being considered. The environment and policing are also under discussion.

On specific points, it is hoped that a dropped kerb pedestrian crossing, adjacent to 11, Brook Street, will assist pedestrians, although I regret that at the time of writing I do not know the exact date on which this work will be done.

A survey of traffic speeds on Cossington Road has been carried out, and County officers are to consider what action might be appropriate. 30mph roundel markings have been added to roads at the entries to the 30mph speed limit in Sileby; these markings can only be used at an entry point to a 30mph limit, and so they cannot be used on Cossington Road.

The County Council has introduced Highway Patrols, a fleet of lorries to carry out routine highway safety inspections, minor repairs to roads and pavements and deal with local highway emergencies and defects more effectively. The Highway Patrol can be contacted by telephone using the Freephone Roadline Service number, 0800 62 62 03.

Issues are always developing. Please let me know of any matters which arise which affect you.

I can be contacted as follows:

By e-mail: RShepherd@leics.gov.uk

By telephone: 01509 413903

By post: 73, Leicester Road, Quorn, Leicestershire, LE12 8BA.

I look forward to hearing from you if you think I may be able to help or if there is anything you would like to let me know.

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Your Letters

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

Dear Sir,

First of all, I would like to congratulate you on your article, 'to scoop or not to scoop' in the last edition of Talk@Sileby. The situation in the village with dog fouling is disgraceful and unfortunately gives all dog owners a bad name even though the majority of us do clean up after our dogs. Unfortunately, I have another issue with irresponsible dog owners, 'WHAT IS THE PONT OF BUYING A DOG IF YOU ARE JUST GOING TO LOCK IT OUTSIDE FOR THE DAY TO YAP AND BARK AND HOWL AND TOTALLY GET ON THE NEIGHBORHOODS NERVES'!!!

I work from home and if the weather is good, I want to have my windows open but all you can hear day in day out are dogs barking etc. I have a dog myself and I know that if you take the time to train your dog properly, it will not bark without good reason. Maybe some dog owners don't realise their dog barks all day, they are after all at work, so if you live near a noisy dog, just bring it to the owners attention. If this doesn't work, get in touch with the Environmental Officer at Charnwood Borough Council, they will send a letter to the owners informing them of the complaint and if they still do nothing about it, the council

will then take action if it is proved that a statutory nuisance is occurring. We all know dogs bark, but when it is incessant and for no good reason that is when it becomes a nuisance.

There is no need to suffer in silence because of someone else's ignorance. Thank you for taking the time to read this letter.

Yours Faithfully
Andrea J Wells
Swan Street

A NOTE OF THANKS

To the young lady who found my wallet on Dudley's bridge.

May I express my most sincere thanks and gratitude for the return of this most valued item. You passed the wallet to a young man working on the farm who inadvertently forgot to ascertain your name and address, because of this I have not been able to thank you personally.

So I put pen to paper in the hope you may make yourself known to me and I can rectify this unfortunate state of affairs.

PJN Astill
Quebec House
Sileby

ONE OF OUR WARDENS IS MISSING

PETE CAMPBELL

My partner Alison has moved to pastures new. Alison's interest was always in the natural history of the village. So the parish again needs a heritage warden who could take on Alison's mantle. If you are interested please contact myself Pete Campbell at peter@aberglasyn.freeserve.co.uk or ring on 07762 299774 or contact the community heritage initiative on 0116 2671377. My next plea is for your old photo's, anecdotes, mementoes and memories of the village. I know there are plenty of memories so please jot them down and drop them into the parish council or email at above address.

AND NOW FOR SOMETHING NEW

A diary has been donated to the parish council and handed to me. A big thanks to Vera Walters for this.

The diary was written during 1979 – 1981, it records the local walks every Sunday (weather permitting!) of Horace Smith. Horace was in his 80's at this time, having been born in 1897. He was Sibley born & bred, seemingly living in the cemetery road and Radcliffe road area. If there is anyone who remembers Horace then i would love to hear from you. I intend to contribute a regular article picking out some of his Sunday diaries.

MR SMITH GOES WALKING

SUNDAY JANUARY 6TH 1980

First Sunday of a new decade. A milder day following a cold spell. However a rather cloudy damp and windy morning so did not tackle the Fosseyway in the new year: to East Goscote only once more. Floods gone down in Broome Lane spinney, though river still high and muddy with one lone fisherman in sight. I do not see much wildlife in these parts though I see plenty of seagulls and rooks having a "field day" in water logged fields. I hear a "wuff wuff" overhead, look up and see half a dozen geese with their necks outstretched, flying in formation. No traffic jams or petrol fumes up there. Home again in just a slight drizzle.

It is now evening. I have on my paraffin heater and Aladdin lamp, giving me a room temperature of '63°', about right and much more comfortable than a stuffy central heating outfit with all draughts excluded. I am also lucky with having quiet neighbours (I have had some peculiar ones over the years). I have finished reading my "Observer" which keeps me in touch with what's going on in the world – about 70 years ago wise old Mrs Yates said "reading is the best thing a boy can do" how right she was! Anyone who cannot read must have his ears open all the time for "crumbs" from someone who can read. Old "Harry Flatface" said to a non-reader who was talking – "you know a bloody lot when you've been told."

SUNDAY JANUARY 13TH 1980

A fine sunny morning but very cold. Dry underfoot however and no 'icy patches' Started off a little earlier as I intended going up Fosseyway this time. The county council are making a concrete curbed footpath on left hand side from "Barnets

Brook". This is just what is needed especially for me on Sunday! I suppose they will make it all the way to the fly-over: if they do I have fears for the old cheggy tree which is near the road already.

In this world of change, old friends must make way for things new. On to the Fosseyway and the "fast lane" as it is called. There is nothing coming up behind me anyway, and I have only to look ahead for the overtaking fast ones. I reach Payne's spinney and not a rook in sight. I hope there will be no delayed building by bad weather and they get cracking soon in the tree tops. A lot of sheep in the next field. Lets hope the farmers are lucky with the lambing, with no snow or very little of it. No shelter in the hedgerows now for a p**s, which comes up more when it is cold. I nip through the gate where the old fox cover used to be and "have one" also a nip of brandy. Turn for Thrussington. "good morning nice morning" from a couple by their car at the gate, about to feed their horses in the field. I meet quite a lot of horse riders nowadays. Warm perhaps for their "asses" (as the yanks say) but surely cold for their feet.

WALKING IS BEST – AND CHEAPER

News from The Banks Surgery

As many of you may have seen things are continuing apace at The Banks Surgery. We would like to take this opportunity to welcome two new nurses who have joined the team at Sileby. Firstly, Sister Marilyn Frost who is an experienced Practice Nurse with skills in all aspects of Chronic Disease Management including Diabetes, Asthma, Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease, Ischaemic Heart Disease and many other areas of nursing. She will be with us predominantly on Mondays and Tuesdays. She will be joined by Sister Jane Jones in October who is a very experienced District Nurse and will be present this time in a Practice Nurse Capacity at Sileby on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. Our Nurse Practitioner Sarah Vale will still be present on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday helping with various things including triage and chronic disease management. We also say goodbye to Sister Maria Southam who has moved to Birstall.

The waiting room has been resized, redecorated and refitted with new upholstery and carpets. We are continuing with the fitting out of the clinical rooms, which is nearing completion although there is still a little building work to finish in one of them. Please bear with us. We are also continuing to look for a new site for the surgery so if you are aware of anything that may be appropriate, either as a new build or a conversion please contact us.

The Friends of The Banks Surgery patient group has successfully had its first meetings and has proved highly valuable to patients, doctors and staff of the surgery. If you feel that you could contribute to the group and have any suggestions for ways that we could improve the service that we offer to you we would be pleased to see you at the next meeting at 2:15pm on Thursday 10th of November. We look forward to seeing you soon

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Everyone knows that time fly's when you are having fun, and the last year and a half has certainly proved this to be the case at Sileby Day Nursery. We have been growing and evolving nearly as fast as the wonderful children we care for. We have over 50 children on our register and not just little ones.

We now have an after school Kids Club which is proving to be very successful. We pick up from many local schools and the children love meeting up to play games, have fun and eat a delicious tea, all before being picked up at home time.

We want to thank everyone who came to support our open day earlier this year. We raised an amazing £400 that is now being used for additional outdoor play equipment. Another big thank you for all the support our charity events have received from parents, staff and children. We raised money for the Tsunami Disaster Appeal by having a sponsored pancake toss last Easter. It was the messiest fun you can imagine having with pancakes! More recently we had a Jeans for Genes day when the children and staff paid to wear their jeans to nursery. We had a wonderful fashion show and the children had a great time dressing up, walking the catwalk and dancing the afternoon away. All the staff joined in too and if it were only fun and enthusiasm that made a Supermodel, then Sileby would rival Milan!

Lots of exciting events are yet to come. We are all looking forward to Santa Claus at Christmas and we will be having events for the children as well as the village. Keep a look out for posters and we will look forward to seeing you soon.

Sileby Bowling Club

Sileby bowling Club was set up by Francis Burton and business directors of local firms in 1939, Mr Burton and Lady bowler Adeline Parkinson bowled at county level and for the England Bowling Association.

In 1981 a triple went to Worthing as Leicestershire champions. In 1996 Gilbert Naphine, Maurice Hall and Ray Hurst went to Worthing as runners up for Leicestershire County Bowling Association.

This year, 2005, once again the club has had 3 members go to Worthing as Leicestershire Champions. David Hewitt, Gilbert Naphine and Jim Keogh. They won their first match but lost the second Match.

It has been a good year for the club as Gilbert Naphine came runner up in the champion of champions and Lady bowler Carol Chamberlain also got though to the semi-finals in the ladies champion of champions. This is played against clubs from all round Leicestershire.

The Monday afternoon A team captained by Joe Rankin came top of the 2nd division and the B team captained by Alvyn Muggleton came runners up in the 3rd division in the Loughborough league.

The club runs a Jelson Pairs competition, this seasons winners were Soar Valley Bowls club. Runners up Sileby Bowls Club, 3rd were Aylestone Hall and 4th Brush Bowls Club. The club is always looking for new members so if you would wish to try come down to the bowling green. We start in April 2006 and there is equipment there to use. To get to the club take Seagrave Road, Heathcote Drive, Collingwood Drive, right into Springfield Road.. The car park is at the end of the road.

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Sileby Town's season has been very much a case of what might have been for the senior sides while the juniors have shown them the way as their academy system produced yet more silverware for the Mill Lane trophy cabinet.



The First XI left it until late in the season to secure their Division One status thanks to a backs to the wall performance against the promotion chasing Langtons, where Phil Chamberlain's gutsy 70 got Sileby to maximum batting points and safety, where they had been reeling at 75

for 6 at one stage.

The season had started brightly but the loss of key players and inconsistency in both the batting and bowling stakes, coupled with some poor fielding in many games saw them failing to rack up the wins that many had hoped would be the case.

As it was, Jim Melody finished the season as the leading run scorer, with 573 runs at an average of 35.81, with Ben Cavey (421 @ 23.39) and the evergreen Nigel Kinch (336 @ 22.40) his closest challengers.

The bowling spoils went to pace ace Matt Ellis, who picked up 29 scalps in the league - with an amazing 21 of those being clean bowled, with Cavey (22) and Phil Chamberlain (21) close behind.

While the First XI were left looking over their shoulders for most of the season, the Second XI made a superb start to their campaign as they won four of their first five matches, including massive wins against Barrow and Bitteswell, before their form hit the rails, due to unavailability, before picking up again in the last third of the campaign, seeing them to a fourth placed finish.

The Bitteswell match produced fine performances all round from Sileby's young guns with Charles Kindleysides blasting his maiden senior ton and Liam Kinch and Tom Grainger taking vital wickets as Sileby won by 136 runs.

All three of those players represented Leicestershire at Under 14 County level, while Kinch became one of only two players from Leicestershire to make it into the Midlands representative sides, the other being Sileby colleague Michael Ruddle.

Phil Gleadell continued to be the mainstay of the batting with 389 runs in 13 innings', while Kinch, who also made his First XI debut, finished the term with 304 runs, including two half-centuries, and Kindleysides with 294, with a half-century to go with his Bitteswell ton. They were ably supported by Rob Hands (288), Andrew Preston (314) and Paul Tompkins (243) as Sileby's batting line-up proved to be one of the most consistent in Division Five.

Sileby's bowling was built around the reliable pair of Hands (37 victims) and seam bowler Dave King (31 victims) while the supporting cast of Mark Sharman, Nick Stone and Grainger gave their team-mates good cover.

Mentions should also go to youngsters Michael Ruddle, Daryl Hands and Joe Charity, who all made their Second XI debuts last term.

The Sunday First XI consolidated their place Grantham and Melton Division One in their debut season in that division. A century from Matt Willett kicked the season off well against the champions Pickwell but they were never really able to scale those heights again, although they did defeat Pickwell in two of their three matches.

Buckminster were the eventual champions while Sileby finished in fifth place, a

credible performance considering the number of Saturday matches they encountered. Michael Ruddle produced the seasons only five wicket haul, on his debut at North Luffenham, and claimed three further wickets in his other two outings. More of the same will be expected of him next season.

Again, Melody was the leading run scorer, with 333 runs in six knocks, with Willett finishing with 267 from eight and Pete Willcocks 247 from nine.

The Sunday Second XI saw further progression of Sibley's youngsters as Dan Tompkins and Lewis Burnip turned in regular performances for Steve Steel's side. Thirteen-year-old Burnip crashed his maiden senior half-century against Wakerley and Barrowden and then followed that up with a valuable 36 against Egerton Park and finished the season with 130 runs from six innings.

Craig Steel was the leading run scorer, with 296 runs, while the ageless Eric Hill produced fantastic performances behind the pegs, finishing the season with 18 victims, 14 of which came via stumpings, along with his 288 runs.

The bowling was shouldered by King and James Ruddle, with King claiming 33 wickets at an amazing average of 8.21. Ian Clarke returned from a lengthy retirement and produced some superb spells, without ever getting the wickets he deserved and he will be a key figure in helping develop the huge glut of youngsters that Sibley have in their ranks.

Young bowlers Andy Kenneth and James Headley made their debuts for the Sunday Second XI last term and they, and several of the other junior players, will be expected to step up to the plate next time around as they look to improve on their fifth place finish.

The Ladies XI enjoyed a slightly better season than previously as they completed six matches during the season and recorded two wins.

If the senior sides are to push for honours next season, they could do worse than take inspiration from the clubs junior section as the Under 13s racked up two more trophies and the Under 15s came close on two occasions, falling fowl of Loughborough Carillon Old Boys on both occasions.

Paul Tompkins' young charges walked away with the District League and County League titles, both with comprehensive wins over Loughborough Town, and also retained the Davis Cup with another comprehensive victory over Syston at Syston. They may also have progressed further in the cup competition had they not lost on wickets lost against Loughborough in the semi-final of the District Cup competition and that was only after making a stunning comeback from being one for two wickets down inside the first three overs.

There was further representative recognition with Joe Charity, Laurence Worn, Tompkins, Burnip, Phil Hackett, Adam Hackett and Sean Dudley all representing the North West District at various age groups while Stephen Prince, Andy Kenneth and Daryl Hands all went on to reach county honours, along with Michael Ruddle.

Sibley's roots continue to grow with another good crop of youngsters waiting in the wings in the Kwik Cricket and Incrediball sections, who both enjoyed successful seasons.

Their numbers will be swelled again during the winter as Richard James and his army of coaches begin their winter coaching scheme on 16th October at Ratcliffe College as

they begin the Bronze Award Scheme, which teaches the basics of cricket. All are welcome to take part – anyone interested should contact Richard directly on 07713 132650 or can contact him via the club website at www.silebytown.co.uk

While the seniors may have had mediocre seasons, the progression of the juniors has been superb and they have received their just rewards – next season will no doubt see many more of them putting in more regular appearances in the senior sides and pushing the club further on towards the Premier League.



Pictured:

Dan Tompkins holds aloft the Davis Cup following Sileby's victory over Syston and Liam Kinch (back) and Michael Ruddle (front) in their Midlands blazers following their selection for the representative side



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