

talk @ Sileby

Village Newsletter

Issue 11 Summer 2004



www.sileby-village.co.uk the home of all things Sileby

HETTERLEYS

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Forward

Welcome to issue 11, the summer edition. The sun is shining (sometimes) and the new playground on the Park has been officially opened. The event was well attended and it was good to see so many children playing on the new equipment that we, the tax payers of Sileby, have paid for. Do you have any views on the work? Why not write and let us know what you think, good or bad. Let us hope that the vandals do not destroy this new area. The Parish Council have indicated that they will prosecute anybody caught doing damage.

Following the last issue, I have to report that our co-ordinator Roy Brown has resigned from the magazine to concentrate on his borough council activities. Without Roy the magazine would not have got started and it is thanks to his efforts that we have made it to issue 11. The teams thanks go to Roy for all his work over the last few years. If anybody is prepared to volunteer to replace Roy then please get in touch and we will welcome you to the team. The co-ordinators job is to keep us all in line and make sure that we get the editions out in time.

We hope you enjoy this issue. If you would like to contribute an article for inclusion then you are most welcome. If you feel that the writing of this would be too daunting then don't panic, just get in touch and we can help with this aspect of the work. Even if you just have an idea for an article then get in touch, we should be able to help take the idea and produce something for publication.

In the last issue I made a plea to event organisers to get in touch so we could publish a what's on guide both here in the magazine and on the village web site. I find that looking at the village notice board and reading the Loughborough Echo does give me information about events that take place in the village, but I still am not getting notified for inclusion here. I need your help in bring the events to the notice of the people in the village, so please get in touch.

Dave Palmer - Editor

Copies of talk@Sileby

Copies of talk@Sileby can be obtained by post at a cost of 50p per issue which includes p&p (4 issues per year).

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 Fry has taken on the job and she is organising a monthly meeting to take place on the 3rd Tuesday of the month in the Community Centre (Lounge Room) from 7pm. New members are welcome to attend. For information please contact Leicestershire Police on 0116 222 2222.

Highgate Medical Centre news.

Many of you, especially those who attend Highgate Medical Centre will know Sally Lamb, Practice Nurse for seven years. Along with her husband, Neil, and sons, Ben and Adam, she is leaving for a new life in Canada. She will be missed for her caring attitude and her welcoming smile. We all wish them well in their new adventure.

Front Cover Picture: The Centrepiece of the new children's playground recently completed in them Memorial Park. This is part of phase one of the park's regeneration.

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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

Calling all Sileby Family Historians!

Are you researching your family tree in Sileby? To help everyone in their research into their family history, the 1881 and 1891 Sileby Censuses have been transcribed and posted on the village website, www.sileby-village.co.uk.

Even if you are not doing any research but you live in one of the older properties it can be very interesting to see who lived in the house all those years ago.

The hard transcription work has been done by Bill McDowell and all local historians give him a big thanks for all his efforts.

Sileby History

Eric Wheeler

With the upsurge in interest in Genealogy and Local history, Sileby is embarrassed by the lack of decent historical material in print.

Last year, I began a transcription project to help redress the balance and put historical documents relating to Sileby into the public domain. Firstly, I published the Parish register for 1765-1812, and it was sold through the Post Office. I have now completed the earlier Baptism, Marriage and Burial register for the period 1715-1764, and it is available for sale in the village Post Office.

My brief is to publish the remaining Parish Registers in the same way over the next couple of years. However, my scope won't be focused solely on the Parish Registers. I aim to publish lists of ancient wills, memorial inscriptions, probate inventories and other records relating to the village. In addition to this, I will be publishing an annual Local History magazine and I hope to have the first edition ready by Christmas. If anyone has an area of Sileby history that they would like to see highlighted in the magazine or wishes to contribute to it, please do not hesitate to contact me. I have a number of transcribed records, censuses etc relating to the history of Sileby people and houses from the 14th century onwards. I can do brief lookups of these records (within reason !) for free to anyone who requests this service. Please e-mail me at silebyhistory@aol.com or call me on 01509 815294.

Quiz Time

The quiz in issue 10 was obviously a taxing one. No one who entered got all 20 questions correctly but the winner with a score of 19 was Michael Sutton of Hobbswick. He took delivery of a bottle of Scotch Whisky kindly donated by our co-ordinator Roy Brown. For the rest of us here are the answers.

- 1 If you are sent to Coventry of course, no one speaks to you.
- 2 Clausentum was the Roman name for Southampton and Nouiomaesus was Chichester. Portsmouth lies midway between the two.
- 3 Winchester was the former Capital of England and the James Stewart film was Winchester 73. The rather wet bishop was of course St Swithin who was Bishop of Winchester.
- 4 Robert Raikes a resident of Gloucester founded Sunday Schools in 1780. The mass murderers of course are Fred and Rose West.
- 5 Salford is a city in its own right even though it is today part of Greater Manchester. L S Lowry was born here and the Lowry museum is now a city attraction.
- 6 HMS Belfast is a preserved World War 2 cruiser moored in the Thames opposite the Tower of London.
- 7 St Alban was the first British Christian martyr. There were two battles of St Albans in the Wars of the Roses, the first in 1455 being won by the Yorkists and the second in 1461 being won by the Lancastrians.
- 8 Arthur's Seat is an extinct volcano, which overlooks the city of Edinburgh.
- 9 The original Saxon name was Snottingham but apparently the Danish language did not recognize a leading S in their place names.
- 10 Norwich City play in predominantly yellow shirts hence their nickname "The Canaries". The city is the home of Colmans who produce mustard for a worldwide market.
- 11 Dylan Thomas was born in Swansea and the Gower peninsula is situated just outside the city.
- 12 Home of the Bath Oliver biscuit and the Sally Lunn, which was the original Bath Bun.
- 13 Robin Hood of course was always referred to as being dressed in Lincoln Green.
- 14 Denis Healey of course!
- 15 Loch Ness is located west of Inverness and some people infer that there is some kind of monster lurking there.
- 16 Bonnie Prince Charlie advanced as far south as Derby in 1745 but indecision and arguments amongst the leaders ended with the army retreating back to Scotland.
- 17 Worcester is famous for its china and porcelain and also Worcester Sauce, which originated in India.
- 18 The Canterbury is a kind of 18th/19th century paper rack, which was used for storing magazines and sheet music. You often see them turning up on Bargain Hunt and Antiques Roadshow.
- 19 I can't find any reference to the Liver Bird taking to the air but The Beatles did tend to make quite a few records.
- 20 Her third husband was the future George the 4th who built the Brighton Pavilion

The Banks Surgery

New Appointment System.

From Monday, August 2nd 2004 there will be some important changes to the way the surgery operates the appointment system, which we are sure will improve the service provided to you.

We will now operate a telephone triage appointment system which will work as follows: Wherever possible, please telephone the surgery rather than calling in personally to book an appointment as this will greatly reduce the time you have to wait.

The receptionist will take a note of your name and a contact number and will ask you whether problem is a new one or a follow-up to a previous problem. She will also ask you for a brief description of the problem. You do not have to tell her this if you do not want to, but it does help us to know who the most appropriate person for you to talk to is.

Where possible you will be put directly through to the doctor (or nurse), otherwise the doctor will call you back. After having spoken to the doctor, if you wish to see the doctor or nurse he / she will make the appointment for you.

You can make appointments in advance but generally we would ask you to book the appointment on the day that you want it. The doctor will make these.

This has worked very well in other surgeries and has dramatically improved the service for patients whilst reducing the stress on staff and doctors.



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Church News

Methodist Church

21st August BBQ 4pm 168A Seagrave Road
 18th September Barn Dance & Supper at St Gregory's Social Centre
 19th September Harvest Festival
 20th September Harvest Supper
 16th October Cossington choir supper & concert

St Gregory's RC Church

11th September Rummage Sale
 23rd September Bakerlite Boys. 100 tunes from 100 years in 100 minutes.

Sileby & District Council of Churches

On the third Tuesday of September, October and November we are arranging joint discussion meetings. The first one on 21st September is at the Methodist Church and will be a talk about the effects of HIV. The speaker is Canon Margaret Morris. All are welcome.



0 1 5 0 9 9 8 1 6 9 1 6	0 7 8 9 9 8 1 1 5 9 2 9	<p>Experience your professional beauty treatments in a relaxing, friendly atmosphere at a time to suit you, and all at very reasonable prices.</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>HAND & NAIL TREATMENTS</td> <td>WAXING</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Manicures, Nail Extensions & Nail Art</td> <td>Facial and body waxing a speciality</td> </tr> </table> <p>Special Occasion? Call and enquire about special Beauty Packages</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>FACIALS</td> <td>EYE TREATMENTS</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Leave your skin glowing and refreshed with a choice of superb facial</td> <td>Eyelash Tinting & Perming Eyebrow Tinting & Shaping</td> </tr> </table> <p>Book now for the experience of ELEGANCE you deserve - exclusively with Heather Canham - 16 Herrick Close, Sileby. Telephone 01509 816916 or 0789 981 5929</p>	HAND & NAIL TREATMENTS	WAXING	Manicures, Nail Extensions & Nail Art	Facial and body waxing a speciality	FACIALS	EYE TREATMENTS	Leave your skin glowing and refreshed with a choice of superb facial	Eyelash Tinting & Perming Eyebrow Tinting & Shaping	E L E G A N C E
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The Alpha Course

The Alpha Course has changed the lives of many people, worldwide, in recent times.

It is an introductory course about the Christian faith for all church goers and non-churchgoers. No one is exempt and there is no charge for the course.

There is a preview evening on 28th September 2004 at the Pochin Hall (opposite St Mary's Church on Mountsorrel Lane) at 7.30pm where you will meet course leaders, course helpers and those who have been on the course already. There will be a meal and a short video of introduction followed by testimonies by previous course members. We will then be happy to answer any questions you may have.

The course starts on Tuesday 5th October 2004 at The Royal Oak, Cossington (in the Skittle Alley private room). It will last for 10 weeks (every Tuesday apart from 12th October when it will run on Monday 11th October instead) commencing at 7.00pm with a meal and ending at 9.30pm. Each week there will be a meal and a video followed by a discussion. You will also get a course booklet with notes and space for you to make your own notes.

How do I apply to go on the course

To get an application form, either ring Rev. Alan Costerton on 01509 812493, or, pick one up at the Preview Supper on 28th September 2004 at the Pochin Hall
See also www.alphacourse.org

More information available at www.UKVillages.co.uk/Sileby

Sileby Baptist Church may also be running an Alpha course this Autumn.
More details from Julian Ford on 01509 812450.



**ARE YOU COMPLETELY HAPPY
AND CONTENT?**

The Alpha Course

An opportunity to explore the meaning of life
Look on this page For details of the Alpha course
running this autumn, also, www.alphacourse.org
and www.ukvillages.co.uk/sileby



Who we are.

The Government has set up The Pension Service, which is part of the Department for Work and Pensions. It has been set up to improve the service you receive, whether you are already a pensioner or are planning for your retirement, no matter how far off it might be. The Pension Service has a network of pension centres supported by a local service. This will replace the current service provided by social security offices.

What we do

The Pension Service will:

- Work out the amount of State Pension and Pension Credit that you are entitled to
- Provide a face to face service in a place that is convenient for you or in the comfort of your own home if your business cannot be dealt with over the telephone
- Pay your entitlements to you and answer questions over the phone and by post and by e-mail
- Tell you how you can access other pension-related entitlements and services
- Work in partnership with other local organisations to deliver pension-related services.

The pension service can be contacted at
The Pension Service Local Service
2nd Floor
2 Lemmington street
Loughborough
LE11 1UY

The web site is at www.thepensionservice.gov.uk/

The Pension Service operate an advice surgery every 2nd Tuesday of the month in the Sileby Community Centre from 1.30pm to 3.30pm.

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Squeals On Wheels

To end the summer term at St Mary's mother and toddler group we visited Meadow View Farm on 1st July. Also having taken place by the time you read this will have been our sponsored toddle or walk from Sileby to Cossington and back, this is to raise money for much needed indoor facilities in the Pochin Hall.

Squeals on Wheels meet on Thursday mornings, during school term time from 9.30 till 11.30am. We hope to see everyone back again in September after a relaxing summer break.

For information contact Pam Lovett on 813808 or Marion Elliot on 812889.



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Community Transport Project

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find it difficult or impossible to use public transport.



Thursday Door to Door Service.

The door to door service will take you from your home to either John Storer House or Shopmobility.

The time the bus arrives at your house will depend on the number and location of the passengers. We will try to give an approximate time when the bus will arrive at your home. The bus will start from Loughborough to Sileby at about 10am. The return journey begins at about 2pm.

Fares are between £1.40 and £2.70 return depending upon where you live.

Concessionary passes and tokens are accepted.

When you have booked a place the bus will come to your home. The driver will help you from your front door to the bus and take you to town. After your trip the bus will take you back home and assist you to your door.

To book a place please ring June Helmore, Monday to Friday between 8.30am—5pm up to 7 days in advance on (01509) 631761 or email june.helmore@charnwoodcvs.org.uk.

If you have any queries or require any further information please do not hesitate to contact us.

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Malcolm Smith 7 days of Baja 2004 March 22nd-28th Dave Rochlen Memorial Ride



Tim Walker, a KTM motorcycle dealer from Sileby, Leicestershire (Redline Motorcycles) and Mike Ratcliffe, from Quorn, who owns a design company called Ratcliffe Fowler Design in Leicester, went to Baja Mexico to ride with the legend from the film "On Any Sunday". (Malcolm Smith)

Our adventure began on March 17th, we drove down to Heathrow and boarded flight V007 to LA, departing at 12 noon. After a 10½ hr flight, we landed in LA at about 3.30pm the same day.

We went to hire a car. Mike wanted an American car, so we ended up with a Mustang convertible. When we got to it, we couldn't get our bags in the boot. We removed the soft top and stood our bags on the back seat long ways so they were sticking right up above our heads. This was fine whilst the sun was still out, but as we hit the LA highway 405 to Sandi ago it became a long cold drive when it got dark and started to rain, but we had a good laugh as we were so excited of what was to come.

We spent the Friday just looking round Sandi ago, having a few Buds in the bars and just watching the world go by.

Saturday arrived. We set off to meet Malcolm, his wife Joyce and their son Alexander, outside "Fry's" an electrical store on Highway 5. When they turned up, I got on with Malcolm straight away, as we are both KTM dealers and know a lot of the same people. There was plenty to talk about as we drove down through Southern California to the Mexican border, which we just drove straight over with Malcolm saying, "Don't look at them. Don't look at them". It was a bit scary, as we have heard all sorts of things about the border guards.

On the way Malcolm was showing us all his old rides and parts of different Baja 1000 rides. He has an amazing memory. He will say, "you see that trail up the side of that hill, well that's part of the 1977 Baja 1000" and so on, all the time giving us advice on what to and what not to do on the ride and the dangers. He was drilling this into us from the start which makes you a bit nervous when you have no idea what sort of riding you will get over the next 7 days.

Sunday, we went out for a short ride with Alexander, Malcolm's son, to try the bikes, but it was so hot we didn't go for long, about 1 hour, just long enough to try our gear and the bikes. Every one is telling us how hot it is for this time of year, it's normally cold and wet in northern Baja. (Not this year!!)

We are getting really nervous now. All the guys are turning up all with a tale to tell about jumping cactus, survival, dehydration and even mountain lions!!

Now, there is a guy named Jimmy Stones. I will never forget his name, as I thanked him about 30 times a day. He goes out about 3am in the morning and sets the course by pegging pink ribbons on the bushes and in the ground. You should see a ribbon at about every 5 miles. You keep the ribbon on your right and you don't change your course until you see two ribbons together. This means he's going to turn you, so you look for the next ribbon and take the trail that puts the ribbon on your right: easy eh??

Day 1 What a shock we had, it was very hot and we got up at about 5.30 am to get our kit all sorted and on the service truck. You are given instructions where to go, then you look for the ribbons and read the map that you have been supplied with. Out the ranch gate and take the main road to the right. We quickly realised that when they say the "main road", they mean a dirt track in Northern Baja. We are on our way; 8 months of talking about it and we are finally starting our ride of 1400 miles across the Mexican Baja desert. 12 miles in and Mike managed to hit a cow and came off! We sorted his bike out and got on our way. After about 75 miles, we are given some fuel to carry us for the next 100 miles to the orphanage that these guys have built over the years for the poor children of Baja, where they are looked after very well. They are now building a school. These kids really rely on the riders to collect money to fund their school.

We filled up with fuel at the 75 miles stop and took off into the distance. About 12 miles up the dirt track we decided we had gone the wrong way, and had to come back to the fuel truck, which has now gone and we have managed to get behind the sweep guys who have satellite phones. Now the sudden realisation that we are out in the middle of the desert with 100 miles to cover and there is no one coming behind us to help if we get into trouble?

All the stories that people have been telling us are going through my mind. Mike's bike is playing up and we are starting to get really worried but have no choice other than to carry on. We came across some of the worst terrain of the whole 7 days, miles of deep sand and rocky climbs! We pushed on really hard to get to the orphanage but knew we wouldn't make it if we didn't get any fuel. Then, as we went round a corner, there in the middle of nowhere was a farmer collecting wood in an old pick-up truck. Mike stopped him and asked if we could buy some fuel from him. He gave us two beer bottles of fuel which he siphoned from his car. We pressed on and on, until eventually we came out on a tarmac highway, which we found out to be highway 1, the only main road in Baja.

Mike then ran out of fuel, but lucky for us, we were only about quarter of a mile away from the orphanage and were able to get fuel and something to eat and drink.

We were only able to spend about 10 minutes here due to all the other riders leaving as we were arriving, and we did not want to be the last on the road as this morning has taught us it is very scary to be last on the trail. But we were there long enough to see the well taken care of children at the orphanage. A quick drink, fill our camel packs up, fill the bikes with fuel and off we go. This afternoon was just as tough as this morning, with miles of uphill rocky climbs and lots of deep sand. We pressed on, overtaking a lot of riders, without stopping. At the end of that day when we pulled into the night stop we looked at each other, shook hands, and wondered what the hell we had let ourselves in for! We had covered approx. 260 miles today of hard terrain. The bikes were checked over ready for the next day. We had a shower and were in bed by 7.30pm. We stayed at The Old Mill, on the Pacific Coast. This was one of the better stopovers!!

Day 2. As we're on the Pacific Ocean, it is damp and misty this morning. We set off heading back inland over the mountain roads. By 8.00am the mist had cleared and it was 80 degrees again. This morning, there was a lot of hard rocky climbs, and as I got to the top of one of the biggest climbs, Mike was there waiting for me with Malcolm Smith and another guy. The four of us rode for the rest of that morning through some really picturesque cactus trails. Every so often we stopped in the middle of nowhere to look at some scenic views that Malcolm was very eager for us to see. It's amazing how he knows his way around; as he told us to follow him over some really good mountain passes.

We met the support truck for lunch and to get some petrol. Immediately after lunch it was wide and flat-out 70 mph trails, but this soon turned into single track across the mountains. It was very hard, lots of twists and turns, and again more very rocky climbs. As we weaved through some cactus trails Mike managed to hit one with his shoulder, leaving hundreds of tiny needles in it. The next 20 miles were of deep sand but wide enough so we could go flat out (I like the fast sandy roads - but not the deep dried river beds). At the end of day 2, we ended up on highway 1, in the worst accommodation we had ever seen. This place was a real mess. We were told not to stand on the floor while showering as people had caught skin diseases in the past! ! So, we stood on a plastic bag while the shower trickled cold water on us. I'm not saying this place was dirty, but we slept in T-shirts not wanting the sheets against our skin. But we were so tired we slept anyway.

Day 3. Immediately turned off the highway onto sandy twisty road for approx 20 miles. Then we came across some dried up riverbeds with deep sand and rocks this time! This was really hard going, as you had to keep your momentum up. It was then fast shale tracks, which led us back to highway 1, where the support truck was waiting to supply us with lunch and fuel. After lunch, about 12 miles in we came across Jimmy's secret trail. This was very slow going as nobody had ever gone through here before, and we had to cut our way through. This led us onto Laguna Chapala. This is the dry lakebed, made famous in the movie "On any Sunday". It was great to ride flat-out for about 4 miles. Then on to more thick cactus trails, lots of rocky climbs, downhills, turns and twists. We ended up at the top of the ridge, where we met Alexander and a few others. No one seemed to know which way to go next, and then someone found a ribbon at the bottom of a big drop. As we went down the drop I realised there was more deep sand at the bottom. This was about 10 miles of twists and turns; I must have dropped the bike about 50 times. After this it was fairly easy-going on dirt tracks all the way to LA Bay on the Gulf Coast.

To Be Continued....

Are you Protecting your Family?
Have you made a will yet?
Is it up to date?



All these questions are important if you wish your family to benefit from what you have built up in your lifetime. Many people are unaware of how their estate will be affected by the dramatic rise in house prices. Can your family afford to pay Inheritance Tax? There are many ways of protecting your estate if you have the relevant information.

It is also necessary for young families to have a Will so that they can nominate who they would want to look after their children if they were no longer there to do it. Most people would not want anyone else making that decision on their behalf.

With the right information you can feel secure in the knowledge that you have done the best you can for your family.

In home Legal Services provides free information and advice in the comfort of your own home at a time to suit you. Contact Mrs Chris Thomas on 08450 568571. *“Member of the society of Will Writers”*

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SILEBY PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

SILEBY MEMORIAL PARK – OFFICIAL OPENING OF REFURBISHED CHILDREN’S PLAY AREA

The much awaited, newly refurbished play area was officially opened on Saturday 10th July by Parish Councillor Mrs Patricia Staples, Chairman of the Parks Committee. The ribbon was cut by 6 year old Joseph Parker, who was Man of the Match at that morning’s football game and is a Sileby boy, born and bred. Councillor Mrs Staples welcomed all who attended and expressed hope for the future of the park now that this essential element has been completed. She looked forward to further phases of regeneration which will include a skateboard area, improvements to the War Memorial area and hard and soft landscaping.

Councillor Mrs Staples also asked for all users of the Memorial Park to be vigilant and to help combat any vandalism that may occur, by calling the police or the crime stoppers number. “It is only by working together as a community that we can eliminate the minority that spoil it for the rest of us”. She also stated that Sileby Parish Council intend to prosecute all of those who are caught damaging the park or acting anti-socially.

EVENTS AT SILEBY COMMUNITY CENTRE –JULY/DECEMBER

BEST FRONT/REAR GARDEN COMPETITION 2004

The presentation evening will be held on Monday 2nd August 2004.

THEATRE PRODUCTION – ‘THE TITFIELD THUNDERBOLT’

This production is suitable for all ages 8 plus and is being held on Sunday 28th November 2004 as a matinee performance commencing at 4. 00 p.m. Tickets will be available from Sileby Parish Council Office, 41 High Street, telephone 01509 813075.

CHRISTMAS LIGHTS 2004

The lights will be switched on on Friday 3rd December 2004 and there will be the Victorian Market, children’s rides and Father Christmas. A collection will be made in aid of the Chairman’s Charity, which this year will be ‘Rainbows’.

COST OF VANDALISM/ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR ON AREAS UNDER THE RESPONSIBILITY OF SILEBY PARISH COUNCIL FEBRUARY - JULY 2004

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	£640. 00
Security/Surveillance Refurbished Play Areas	£364. 00 per month
<u>TOTAL VANDALISM/ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR COSTS</u>	£1004. 00

SILEBY PARISH COUNCIL POLICY

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



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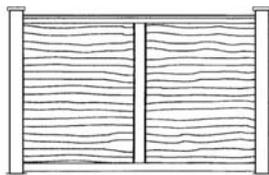
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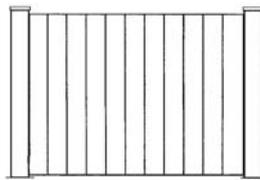
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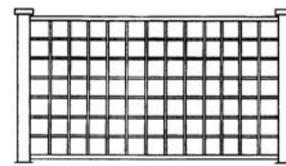
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Your Letters

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

Hello all you Talk@Sileby readers,

I was really enjoying the article in the Winter 2003 issue entitled 'Happy Days' by Lynne Root. I remember as a child the enjoyment we used to get from the American swing. I tell my teenage children how it was a long suspended plank which had to be 'worked up' by a child standing on either end of it, the swing going from side to side. I wonder how many others remember it?

I also remember that white Café on The Banks, though I cannot remember its name. I wonder if anyone could 'shine a light' on this subject. Although it seemed to be unheard of children going into the Café, I think I recall being taken in there once by my eldest brother Pete, and he treated me to a drink of Cola. If I can remember correctly there were a couple of pinball machines and a juke box. I can remember wondering what all the mystery had been about.

Also on The Banks I recall there being a sweet shop called 'Reenies'. One day I pointed out a child's parasol in the window to my mother, and persuaded her to buy it for me. It was a sort of 'two in one' novelty, as it also had sweets filling the whole length of the handle.

I used to really love it when we had the Parade and Gala. I used to enjoy going around with the maypole. Afterwards we were rewarded with a bar of chocolate. I can remember three of the celebrities who attended the Gala over the years - Golden Shot's Anne Aston (of whom I got a signed photo), Gordon Banks (who Leicester City

fans of old might recall) and the one and only Chris Tarrant (back in the days of TISWAS). Unfortunately I didn't queue to get his autograph. Ah, those were the days!

Mrs M. McDowell

Dear Talk@Sileby

I read an article the other day and it said that a third of Britons are too lazy to take a ten-minute walk according to a new survey carried out, its no wonder with all the takeaways now and no where to play for teenagers in Sileby that we are fast becoming a nation of obese Britons. I looked out my window a few minutes ago and low and behold I there was not a sole to be seen in the street not even a car, at 12 midday, I wondered where everyone was, perhaps the survey was correct. When I was younger you could always see someone walking around during the day and wave to them, but I find now that people are too busy.

But one in ten people never even bother to visit the countryside compared to one fifth of people who spend more than 23 hours indoors every single day, according to the survey.

The survey reckoned people in the Midlands were the laziest with 45% choosing to travel by car or bus rather than cycle or walk if at all possible.

Yorkshire came out as the most energetic walkers with just 23% opting for the lazy option rather than walking.

The survey findings follow recent warnings from Chief Medical Officer Sir Liam

Donaldson that people should conduct a minimum of 30 minutes exercise at least five times a week

The survey of 1,000 people across the UK was carried out by UK outdoor clothing firm specialists, The North Face.

The research also showed that increased urbanisation has led to fewer and fewer people visiting the countryside on a regular basis.

Overall, 37% said they go to the countryside just two to three times a year or less, and 10% said they just don't bother.

Londoners are the worst city stickers, with only 25% being bothered to go to the countryside most weekends compared to 79% of outdoors-loving Scots.

Makes you think doesn't it.

Mary Cook

Editors comments. So what do you think, are we lazy in the village? Do we jump into our cars to drive around the village when we could just as easily walk? Lets hear more on this topic in future editions.

Dear Talk@Sileby,

In recent months we have seen a considerable amount of road works in the High Street area. In the main it has consisted of reducing the road width and making the pavement wider. There is also more "speed humps" and parking area's. I was quite surprised at this activity in view of :-

- 1) The volume of traffic is increasing
- 2) Lorries and vans seem to be getting larger.
- 3) Even cars are becoming bigger with the "people carriers" and four wheel drive vehicles.
- 4) I have lived in Sileby for approx 6 years and have never seen traffic speeding in the High Street area.

- 5) There is adequate parking in the car park behind Tesco.
- 6) Other than when school buses load/unload there was adequate pavement for pedestrians.

I am not an expert on road/traffic planning but the six points mentioned above suggest that the High Street should be made as wide as possible, so why have we had to pay for alterations which seem to be undesirable or may be I do not know the overall picture.

A recent drive through the High Street found a large lorry delivering to the motor cycle shop and a large van delivering on the opposite side of the road—the result was traffic chaos.

Any idea why these road works were carried out?

Bill Jelly.

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Taekwon-do club - Alex Andrews



Two and a half years on and our club is going from strength to strength. We now have several higher grade members which is a massive achievement in such a short time. Our club is used by a wide section of the community, our members include children, adults and families.

I would like to take the opportunity to thank everyone who has helped us build this club from the ground up and in particular the staff and committee of Sileby Liberal & Working men's club for their encouragement and un-faulting support from day one. Training is held at Sileby Community Centre on Wednesday evenings from 7 to 8.30pm. Anyone who is interested in joining the club or would like to know more about Taekwon-do please call me on 07764 756336.

Gala 2005

Remember the good old days with all the floats going around the village? Put your support in and come alone

We are looking for anyone interested in either joining the management committee, someone who has an idea for an associated attraction that they would like to do for their particular cause, or probably most important of all, people to actually help run the show on the day. There is some information at www.sileby.org or people can contact Rob on 01509 812818, 07950 787 813 or e-mail at robertmpcross@aol.com



In the last issue we highlighted the village web site produced by Dave Elliot following the successful campaign to bring broadband to the village, a task thought by some to be impossible!

In this issue, we thought we would remind you all of the site and invite you to take a look if you have not yet done so.

The web site features some photographs of the village through the ages and during the summer Dave intends to take new pictures from the same locations so that comparisons of then and now can be made, so if you see somebody taking odd pictures around the village it just may be Dave or one of his cohorts taking these snaps.

Also featured on the web site is village news and a what's on page. These sections are not only invaluable but also rely on you for their update. If you are organising an event then please get in touch and we can add it to the page. The more events we know about and publicise the more useful the information becomes to everybody.

Another great feature of the web site is the forum. Here is a space for you to make comments about any topic you care to mention, from village affairs to the state of English football and even a jokes section to bring a smile (or at least a groan) to everyone's lips.

Not forgetting the back issues of Talk@Sileby and the previous village newsletter, Stockade.

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Can You Remember This?



Sileby Garage, by Neil Matlock

I thought the readers might be interested in these photographs of Sileby Garage taken circa 1935 when Ernest W. Snadell had just purchased the business.

The Snadell family ran the motor repair business for 20 years, selling up in 1955 and moving to Acle in Norfolk to run a boat yard on the broads.

As can be seen from the sign, general engineering was also undertaken with small jobbing work carried out for local businesses. It is also known that parts were made and repairs carried out on the 3 Sentinel steam waggons that operated from Sileby Brickworks of Wrights at the top of Cemetery Road, now the council waste tip. The garage premises were later rebuilt and operated by Harry Heaps, then George Dunsmore followed by his son Geoff and recently taken over by Profile Motors.



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