



The Village Fete was a great success in July despite gale force conditions!



## REFUSED

The proposed change of use of land to provide a gypsy caravan site to accommodate nine residential pitches and creation of hardstandings, erection of boundary treatment together with associated landscaping and highway works including alterations to access off Kings Lane on greenbelt to the northern and southern side of the A46 with the junction of Kings Lane, has been refused by SDC planning committee.

Unbelievably, despite objections from Kings Lane residents, our Parish Council and our County Councillor, plus receiving at least 141 letters, the planners were prepared to allow this development (which would have a devastating effect on the village and environment) to go ahead. It would have solved their need to find another gypsy site and it seems that no real concern was given to the affect it would have on the lives of people and businesses in Snitterfield.

A large number of residents and objectors attended the meeting, described by the press as 'rowdy'! Interested parties filled the chamber and the corridors of Elizabeth House. The committee almost unanimously voted for a refusal on several grounds, including the site would be too near the dangerous junction with the A46, it is inappropriate in the greenbelt, no evidence of special circumstances and lack of detailed information to support the amenity.

Snitterfield already has a large, established gypsy community based nearby at Pathlow (where it was noted at the meeting that residents of that site have had to leave their property because of the decreasing quality of their environment), and to allow another within such close proximity would seriously affect the character of the village and its surroundings. See over for notice of refusal points.





## News from your County and District Councillor

**There has certainly been a lot happening in the Snitterfield area recently.**

There was an excellent turnout at the West Area

Planning Committee July meeting when a planning application along Kings Lane was refused.

More recently, however, the prospect of a new town, the size of Stratford, in the Claverdon area has emerged. Although I think that this is pure speculation I will be working with Claverdon Parish Council and the County Council to establish if any response is needed and will make every effort to ensure that our beautiful countryside is not eroded any further by prospective property developers.

The ruined building of the Foxhunter is a major concern for the village and I have been asking officers of the District Council to take some action with regard to environmental health, the safety of the building and the fact

that it is a blot on the landscape. Although promises were made by the owners assuring the Council that reconstruction works would soon commence several months have passed and still nothing has happened. The latest position is that the District Council is liaising with the owner's agents to establish a timescale for restoration of the building and if this is not successful will use its powers under Section 79 of the Building Act 1984 to require a schedule of works to be carried out. The other alternative is for a Section 215 Notice to be served requiring the site to be tidied, but it must be remembered that an agreed solution with the owners is by far the best and most efficient way forward. The general opinion is that the building will need to be demolished as it would be uneconomic to restore and is of no architectural significance. This would need Conservation Area Consent. However, it is understood that the owners still wish to rebuild as a pub.

May I take this opportunity to thank residents for their support in trying to resolve any problems as they occur – I find it a great

help. Please continue to contact me if you have any concerns or issues you would like to discuss.

**Richard Hobbs  
County Councillor, Aston Cantlow Division**

**Please do not hesitate to contact me if you need any information, help or advice.  
Telephone: (01789) 730331 or email me at richardhobbs@warwickshire.gov.uk**

### Apology

I would like to apologise to Peggy Joslin for any misunderstanding that occurred following my recent article and would like to emphasise that the Council's finances were very sound and well managed under Peggy's husbandry. Following her retirement there was, in fact, a period of two years before she was succeeded by Gerry Stammers and that as Chairman of the Parish Council he, in turn, went on to continue the good work of establishing a sound financial basis for the council. My apologies if I inferred otherwise.



## SAVE THE FOXHUNTER!

*The visitors, the regulars  
of a hundred years and more -  
The pilots and the fruit pickers  
fill the flagstoned floor*

*There's Lawrence in his dicky-bow  
rolling fags for Ken  
with Guy, in shirt and tie although  
he'll never work again.*

*There's Lou! Who dug the graves of those  
he sups with every night,  
the Handys shuffle domino's...*

*the oche ever touching toes  
for a five-o-one e'er in the throes,  
in the pub they thought would never close -*

*...or not without a fight.*

### EPILOGUE

*The Gaffer has no thought for these,  
who drank before his time;  
or those who may be yet to come,  
Which really is the crime.*

*With apologies to illustrious Foxhunter  
company I have missed out - the like of  
The Eustaces, Rene and Jim, David Rowley,  
John Millichip, Julian, Paul Stephenson and  
all those patrons anonymous to me dead  
or alive. Should the Fox ever open, the only  
toast should be to them, their Landlords,  
one and all.*

**Busby © June 2008**

### THE DEAD PUB

*There's a burnt-out pub in Snitterfield  
that rots and festers still -  
Her rafters blackened, soot-annealed  
Her cellar swamped and ill*

*Her windows boarded, hide a sin  
good drinkers all abhor:  
A pub deserted, drained within  
though a name still o'er the door.*

*'licensed to sell... on or off the premises...'  
A supposed Licensee  
who cares not for Her nemesis,  
or the likes of you and me.*

*...but close your eyes, and drink in free-  
there's buggers in there still,  
their lock-in not through Licensee  
but a much, much higher will.*

*Early doors or locked-in late  
they're drinking at The Fox,  
and all on an eternal slate  
- while closing time tick-tocks...*

*tick-tocks, tick-tocks; They'll never hear  
the Landlord's call for time.  
Last orders, Gentlemen! I fear,  
is only yours & mine.*

Precis version of 08/01438/FUL  
PLANNING PERMISSION REFUSED:

- 1 In the opinion of the District Planning Authority, the proposed development would result in unacceptable harm to highway safety by reason that increase in the number of vehicles (including slow-moving vehicles) using the access and the immediate road network. As such, the proposals are in conflict with policies and the Local Plan Review.
- 2 In the opinion of the District Planning Authority, the proposed development by reason the number of pitches, potential number of caravans and other vehicles and buildings, and associated hardstanding would result in unacceptable harm to the visual amenity of the area, which lies within the Greenbelt and Special Landscape Area. As such, the proposals are in conflict with policies and the Local Plan Review.
- 3 In the opinion of the District Planning Authority, the applicant has failed to provide satisfactory evidence of local need in respect of this site and therefore has failed to provide satisfactory evidence of very special circumstances to justify allowing inappropriate development within the Greenbelt. As such the proposals are in conflict with policies of the Local Plan Review as well as national guidance of Greenbelt planning.
- 4 In the opinion of the District Planning Authority, the applicant has not provided sufficient details of necessary infrastructure, particularly that required to satisfy the Council's Environmental Health requirements and policies of the Local Plan Review.

1 August 2008. For more detailed info log on to:  
<http://apps.stratford.gov.uk/eplanning/>





# News from Snitterfield School

## SCHOOL PLAY

The school's play, Snow White and the Seven Jockeys, was, yet again, a great success. This play was the well known tale with a comical Roald Dahl twist – no apples, jockeys instead of dwarves and a magical mirror to tell them who was going to win the Ascot Gold Cup steeplechase!

## ATHLETICS

Every year, children from local schools compete for a place in the South Warwickshire finals at the Arden Area Sports Competition.

Two of our children, Oliver and Josie, went on to the South Warwickshire track finals on Saturday, 5 July. Josie got through to the hurdles finals and came fourth with a stunning run. Oliver came third in the eight hundred metres and helped the Arden Area Relay Team win their race with an amazing sprint. Well done to all the children who took part and achieved so much!

## 15 JULY POND GARDEN OPENING

The Pond Garden was officially opened on a sunny evening, with the ribbon being cut by Chair of Governors, Abbe Sturman, to the sound of musical accompaniment from pupils, some playing a variety of instruments.

Headmistress, Sue Ogden, thanked all those involved in the creation of the pond and bouquets and thank you cards from the children were presented to Hilary Schmidt-Hansen, who masterminded the project and worked tirelessly to make the project happen, and Sally Hopkinson, who designed the garden and worked with the children to help their wish-lists come to life. Many villagers came to see the result of a year of hard work: it was a wet day



in summer 2007 when parents and volunteers spent many very muddy hours clearing out the existing overgrown pond and clearing mounds of rubble and weeds. A very different scene was enjoyed this year as children of all ages sat in the sunshine on the edge of the pond spotting newts, baby frogs and dragonflies. Parents could relax in the knowledge that a safety grid just under the surface of the pond would prevent any accidents,



while allowing a clear view of the wide variety of wildlife that has inhabited the pond.

A jetty area over the water allows close-up investigations and the deck has been designed to be big enough to take a group of children for art lessons.

New bench seating, built by Ole Schmidt-Hansen, a lawn and paved pathways give plenty of scope for educational and recreational activity. A hedgehog house, bird boxes, bird feeders and a ladybird hotel have been added, together with log-piles and planting to attract wildlife.

The pond will be used as a brilliant outdoor classroom by all the school for science and art lessons.

Future fundraising is needed to buy items such as a weather station and furniture for the deck area: any donations towards finishing off the garden would be very welcome. **Please contact the school or Hilary Schmidt-Hansen on 01789 731246 if you can help.**





# Snitterfield Fete

Having spent a rainy Saturday erecting marquees and marking out all the stall spaces, we lost six of the marquees to a couple of huge gusts of wind at about seven o'clock on Sunday morning. Undaunted, the word went out, the troops rallied and within an hour the broken and twisted marquees were cleared away and new plans were hurriedly put in place to ensure that the show would go on!

It was dry and sunny by the time the footballers arrived at 9 o'clock. The stall holders came and joined in the spirit of the adventure which erecting their stalls had become in the wind and by midday the fete was opened by Mrs Bunty Redman, heralded in by the music of Basically Brass.

From then everything seemed to go without a hitch. The committee would like to extend its special thanks to Lee Hillier and his team who coped so well with the Pig Roast in cramped conditions in the garage, due to the loss of their marquee. The Sports Club ran the Bar and raised over £1,000 for their funds and Snitterfield Against Climate Change (SACC) were prominent in clearing away rubbish.

Snitterfield School had their own area of the fete and did very well despite the Bouncy Castle, normally a great money raiser for them, being abandoned due to the weather! The children gamely performed a scene from *A Midsummer Night's Dream* as the theme of the Fete this year was 'Midsummer'. They did brilliantly, battling to be heard above the gale.

There were many wonderful attractions – a glider, huge tractors, minis (that's cars not skirts!), bee-keepers selling local honey and a blacksmith. The strawberries were very popular as usual – more had to be picked and ferried in to cope with demand! In the arena the falconry and dog agility displays and the Tug-of-War contest were huge successes. Warneford Radio ran the proceedings for us and we had fantastic music from Richard Norris and Friends and Electric Mayhem as well as Basically Brass.

The Tea Tent was the only marquee still standing thanks to its loan by Shakespeare Marquees, which was just as well as the demand for teas from 9am until 4pm was continuous. Yet more thanks particularly to Rhiannon Lewis, Andrea Chester and their team. This marquee also housed the cakes, gardens and posies competitions which were of a very high standard.

The committee has now built up a fund of money from which it plans to make donations to appropriate projects or causes associated with the village or for the benefit of villagers. We would like to hear from anyone with ideas which are relevant to our area.

We are past masters at thinking on our feet on the Fete Committee; last year we had torrential rain, this year howling gales. What can be in store for next year ... SNOW?!!

**If you like a challenge and enjoyed the fete this year and would like to have some fun and become involved please get in touch with Gaye on 730372 or Nicola on 731891.**

Thanks to Charlotte Matthews for the fantastic photographs.

## Do you have a project which could benefit from the Village Fete proceeds?

Each year the money raised from the Village Fete is donated to appropriate projects or causes associated with the village or for the benefit of villagers, reserving only expenses needed for the following year. Some years all the profits may go towards one good cause; other years the monies will be divided between several successful applicants. The only criterion which has to be met is that the application has to be relevant to Snitterfield specifically. So if you are a member of a village society, group or a village resident and you would like to nominate a village project or cause please write to: The Fete Committee, Nicola Matthews, Holly Cottage, Wolverton Road, Snitterfield CV37 0HB.

The deadline for applications this year is 1 November 2008. Your letter of application should include the following:

- The exact use for which the funds will be used. This needs to explain the total cost of your project as a whole and, if appropriate, a breakdown of costings for smaller items or stages in the process to allow for part funding.
- What the timescale of your project is, if appropriate.
- How long your society/group has been active.
- Who a cheque is to be made out to should the application be successful and their position within the group/society.
- Your contact details.

A shortlist of applications will be drawn up in November and successful applicants notified as soon as possible afterwards. The decisions will be made by the fete committee members, excluding any parties with conflicts of interest. The committee's decision is final. If any villagers would like to join the committee and help to organise next year's event they would be welcomed at the next committee meeting at the Sports Club on 16 September 2008 at 7.30pm.

Successful recipients will be asked in due course to provide evidence of how the money has been spent (receipts, photographs etc) and unsuccessful applicants will be welcome to reapply the following year.





# History of Snitterfield Village Hall and Institute

## Hilary Schmidt-Hansen writes about the well-loved and well-used hall in the heart of the village.

In 1873 Mark Philips, son of Robert Philips and benefactor to the village during the Victorian times, built 'The Philips and Trevelyan Institute' (now known as 'The Gables') on an acre of land in Smiths Lane, Snitterfield. It was originally built for Henry Clutton, the architect of Welcombe House (which later became the Welcombe Hotel, Stratford) while he worked there. When Sir George and Lady Caroline Trevelyan (daughter to Robert Needham Philips and niece to Mark Philips) took over Welcombe House one of their first acts of benevolence to the village was to convert 'The Institute' for the use of the people of Snitterfield. An Institute Committee was formed and from that point until when the building was sold, the house was rented from the Welcombe Estate for £7 per year whilst also being supported by subscriptions.

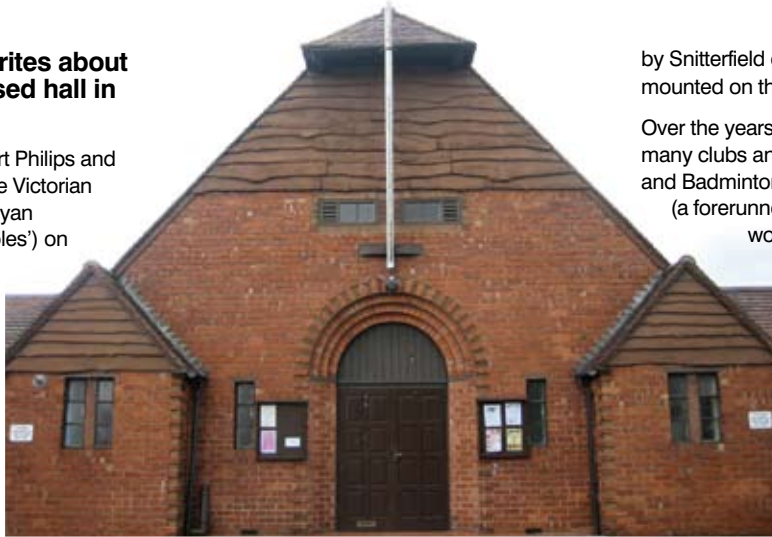
The Institute consisted of a Reading and Newsroom, Library and Billiards room. It is recorded that over 700 good books were available for the use of the villagers and the library was opened once a week by Mr Harper, the schoolmaster, who was in charge of the library. Later these books were transferred to the village hall until 1948 when the County Library offered to supply all the books in future and the books were removed from the hall. In 1956 a fortnightly Library Service started to visit Snitterfield and 50 years later is still well frequented by villagers when it stops outside the village hall and other areas of the village.

The larger room of the Institute (at present 2 The Gables) was used as a news and reading room and was also available for concerts, whist drives and the village debating society. The billiards room (3 The Gables) was very well patronised and tables were also available for chess with a bar run for the sale of non alcoholic drinks. The grounds were levelled off to provide a bowling green and two tennis courts.

The caretaker lived in what is now 1 The Gables and for a short time the post office was run in the Institute by a Mr Moore from whom it was taken over by Mr Morgan (the caretaker at that time) until it was transferred to his house in School Lane.

In 1929, after the death of Lady Trevelyan, Robert Trevelyan (her son) and Mr Place offered to give the Institute as a free gift to the Parish Council. However, it was eventually decided that the Parish Council could not warrant the upkeep of 'The Institute' and that of the proposed Village Hall so it was sold to a Mr Tullet of Birmingham and converted into the three dwellings.

The balance from the sale of the Institute, together with the furniture, was given for the use of the future hall (with a proviso that £50 should be devoted to the provision of a bowling green and tennis court). Robert Trevelyan also offered to give £500 for the building funds of the village hall either as an annexe to the Philips and Trevelyan Institute, or as a separate building.



After much debate amongst the villagers it was decided to close the Institute and land on Bearley Road was purchased from Mr WT Chatterley for £50 as a site for the new hall, a bowling green and a tennis court (although in 1949 the 'new' tennis club was formed and two hard courts were then used at Ingon Grange).

In 1931 a village hall committee was formed and the Trust Deeds were signed and enrolled with the Charity Commissioners.

Under these deeds the rules for the letting of the Village Hall were drawn up and at that time included:

That the Trust Deed rules relating to intoxicating liquor not being brought into the hall must be enforced.

That any person entering the Hall while under the influence of drink must be reported to the Parish Council, and he would be debarred from using the Hall for such time as decided upon by the Council.

All damage and breakages to be paid for.

Stewards must remain on duty until close of the function.

On 21 January 1932 the Village Hall was formally opened by Mrs RC Trevelyan and the hall was filled with villagers and people from the surrounding district, concluding with the play 'The Butterfly Queen' by school children.

During the second world war the village hall was used for numerous activities including a cinema show for the Warwickshire Troops; Home Guard parades and training (our very own 'Dad's Army') and the making of camouflage netting (the nets were suspended from the great beams that cross below the roof of the room).

The Hall was also used for First Aid lectures, jam-making by the Women's Institute and as an emergency rest centre (with a cooking trench on the waste ground behind the hall). It is recorded that in 1940 the emergency centre was for homeless refugees with parties coming from Coventry and Birmingham at night to sleep on mattresses on the floor, being cared for by the Shelter Committee – one family, husband, wife and baby were 'in residence' for two months.

A plaque was presented to the village in 1946 by the ship's company of HMS Verity in appreciation of kindness shown to their men

by Snitterfield during the war and this is still mounted on the wall of the village hall.

Over the years the Village Hall has been used by many clubs and societies including the Bowls and Badminton Clubs and the Women's Club (a forerunner to the Women's Institute) who would organise an Old Folk's Party in the hall at Christmas for every villager over 60 years of age. In 1953 the hall was used to celebrate the Coronation of the Queen and again to celebrate her Silver and Golden Jubilees.

Today the Hall continues to be used by many village organisations including the Whist Club, the Thursday Club, Brownies, the Garden Club, Rag-Tag Toddler Group, the WI and the Gliding Club. The Parish Council meets each month in the back room and the Holiday Club uses the hall each summer for a week of entertainment for the children of the village. Organisations from outside the village also make use of the hall.

The Hall is no longer run by the Parish Council but has its own management Committee, currently the chairman is John Huntingdon, secretary Ann Farr, and treasurer Peter Morlidge. There are several other members of the committee and if anyone is interested in joining and helping to keep our wonderful hall in full use please contact John Huntingdon (Tel 730575).

We are also extremely fortunate to have the support of the Friends of the Village hall who run a monthly draw. For a subscription of just £12 per year each member is enrolled in the draw for which the first prize is £15 and second prize £10. Money from this fund raising has been used over the years to help with the provision of the lighting, chairs, a new electric piano and a baby changing table in the ladies toilets. This year we have also been able to install a hearing loop system which helps those users suffering from hearing loss – by switching their hearing aids to the 'T' mode a speaker's voice is more easily heard via the loop.

If anyone is interested in joining the Friends of the Village Hall monthly draw contact Don Rushton (730276) or Jean Dronsfield (731574).

The Hall provides an excellent space for entertainment and in the recent past we have seen many first class live bands perform on the stage – a feature not available in all village halls. Many local organisations make use of the hall for fund raising events and the school performed 'Joseph and his Amazing Technicolor Dream Coat' as their end of year concert in the summer – Not quite in the same league as 'The Butterfly Queen' but no doubt to the same standard as the performance by the children 74 years ago!

The Village Hall is available for hire at a very competitive rate with use of a kitchen, crockery and cutlery for 80 to 100 people and makes a wonderful space for parties.

If you are interested in hiring the hall please contact Renate Stephens for more information  
Tel: 731426



*Vast skies, wide spaces, biting winds, whispering reeds, blazing sun, dappled water, shingle shores, glistening sands,, emptiness ... silence pierced by curlews calls.*

**Snitterfield Garden Club's members and friends were off again on their travels, this time to have a peep over the garden walls of East Anglia. To many, this is an area of non existence, flat, falling off the edge of England, but to those who know, one of outstanding beauty and 'home'.**

This was essentially an ecological tour so to put us in the right frame of mind, we glided silently through the reed beds on the Broads by riverboat, experiencing the expansive skies, and clear light; rambled over the salt marshes and dunes, spotting bee and pyramid orchids, the steely blue of the sea holly and then drifts of purple marsh orchids; and trekked along the endless golden sands of Holkham beach.

Share with us a peep of a few contrasting gardens we visited with a variation of extreme growing conditions where plants have eventually harmonised. East Ruston Old Vicarage Garden was a must. It is awesome, all 32 acres created from an exposed prairie like landscape containing poor arable fields and transformed to a series of gardens, many planted with tender exotic plants, almost tropical, an Arizonian desert garden, a Californian gravel garden, surviving by a planting of shelter belts which has in turn achieved a micro-climate. Breathtaking concepts and vistas, contrived but achieved by thoughtful planting.

There are several estates in East Anglia and Houghton Hall was chosen because of the traditional parkland roamed by fallow deer, organic grazing, emphasis on conservation and a haven for birds and wildlife. The walled garden has recently been awarded the 'Christie' Garden of the Year and is delightfully quirky as the design for the rose garden was inspired by the ceiling of the drawing room and is bordered by planting pleached limes and plum trees. The grounds are extensive but very simply and effectively landscaped with avenues of trees to enhance the sweeping vistas of space and sky.



Two East Anglians have tremendously influenced our gardens. Alan Bloom, from Bressingham, introduced island planting, travelling extensively throughout Europe

he discovered many exciting perennials, propagating them and distributing nationwide in garden centres. No doubt, many of Bloom's plants are cultivated in Snitterfield gardens.

His stunning gardens created are world famous and great fun to visit as Alan left a legacy of steam engines, funfair and *Dad's Army* memorabilia. His son Adrian has developed the gardens and his own personal contribution known as 'Foggy Bottom' is spectacular,

displaying collections of conifers, heathers and the National collection of Miscanthus.

We ended our pilgrimage at Beth Chatto's garden in Elmstead Market, Essex. Beth and her husband pioneered the ecological garden by choosing plants suited to the local conditions. The informal garden is situated in one of the driest areas in the country with extremely poor soil, raw gravel in some parts, deep shade on other places as well as boggy areas. The garden is an absolute delight whatever time of the year. More than one member recognised her ability as a true plantswoman creating scenes of harmony and tranquillity. The sensational gravel garden planted with drought loving plants has never been artificially watered, is low maintenance whilst her damp gardens are lush, magical and atmospheric. We were enchanted.

A successful trip, great fun, shared discussion and observations, laughter, inspirations, just the right conditions for a Club! Next jaunt is to Great Dixter and Sissinghurst, Saturday 6 September. Cost £23. Snitterfield Garden Club welcomes anyone who wishes to join.

Meetings are first Tuesday of each month 8pm at the Village Hall. Membership £8 September to September. AGM Tuesday 2 September 7.30pm, Produce Show at 8pm.

**Margaret Tweed, Snitterfield Garden Club**



## Smashing times ahead at the Tennis Club

Since the first game was played in July 2000 Snitterfield Tennis Club has been a huge success. The membership now stands at 120 adults and 87 juniors. It is not long before new members, usually tentatively picking up a racquet for the first time in a number of years, respond to the friendly atmosphere and become infected by the competitive spirit.

Soon after formation the club became affiliated to the LTA and began entering local league matches. The club now has two men's teams, three ladies' teams, a mixed squad, and a number of junior teams, boys and girls, ranging from age 4 to 16. The teams play regularly in Winter and Summer leagues and have gained promotion most seasons with the Men's and Ladies' A teams now near the top of the leagues. The 4-year-olds recently reached the semi final of their first ever tournament.

The club also runs a number of club tournaments – during the summer, 'The Closed Club Tournament', for all categories with trophies for the winners and during the winter the 'Floodlit Tournament' which has a mixed doubles format, with partners being chosen by 'the hat'. This is very popular and a great way to meet new people.

The future of the club is obviously with the juniors and our Coach, David Howard, runs a comprehensive, competitively priced coaching programme throughout the year which is open to both members and non members. There has been coaching throughout the summer and for the first time Multisport Camps which have been enjoyed by a number of children from all over the local area. The next junior tennis coaching session will commence in September. Members and non-members are all welcome.



↑ The four finalists for Snitterfield Tennis Club's Floodlit Tournament – Laurie West and Isobel Rowley, Clive Irwin and Claire Niblett

← Winners were Laurie and Isobel, seen receiving their trophy from Richard lePage

↓ ... and the supporters who turned out to watch on a very cold night!



**For information about any aspect of Snitterfield Tennis Club contact Sue Hawkesford on 01789 731847 or e-mail [suehawkesford@aol.com](mailto:suehawkesford@aol.com)**





# Bramley Orchard Farm

## Strawberries, Raspberries and Apples galore!

**Helen Hayter describes how her family took on part of the fruit farm and are now supplying Snitterfield and local businesses with delicious, freshly picked, local produce.**

This was the first year of a new venture for us ... and quite a challenge it was! I think that my husband had romantic views of a simple life, picking fruits in sunny strawberry fields and orchards. Alas, it was no episode from *The Darling Buds of May* and Catherine Zeta-Jones was nowhere to be seen to lend a helping hand!

Since coming here we have learned a huge amount about producing strawberries and raspberries – we needed to learn quickly because we have 80,000 square feet of polytunnels, situated on the hills of Ingon Lane (formerly part of Snitterfield Fruit Farm). All our strawberries are grown on 'tables' which makes harvesting easy, all are watered and fed by irrigation tubes controlled by timers. Our strawberries and raspberries are picked to order and we deliver out on the same day, so when you call into Snitterfield Stores you know you'll be able to purchase them fresh every day.

We are very grateful to Lee for his marketing and sales advice, as we have been successful in selling all the fruit we've

grown to the Stores, local outlets and wholesalers. Anyone wanting a large order can contact me on the number below.

Our aim is to increase the availability of fresh, quality, local produce and keep our part of the fruit farm happily productive for the future. Our labour force is made up of family, friends and local people from the village, and we are always in need of more fruit pickers so please contact me if you want some local work, with flexible hours.

The current Bramley apple crop looks promising this year. We have 1500 trees and will sell the apples from Snitterfield Stores in returnable boxes from September. (Returning the boxes not only helps with recycling, it cuts the cost for everyone too.) The Bramley apples have not been sprayed with pesticides, so they may be blemished, but the cost will be low... and the taste is fantastic!

In spring 2009 we will be making up and selling hanging baskets and flowering tubs – and we will be happy to refill your old baskets – please bring them in during the winter, labelled up with your name and telephone number, and I'll contact you when they are ready.

Thank you very much to everyone who has supported our efforts and we look forward to successful future seasons.

**Bramley Orchard Farm. Tel 731388.**

**Take advantage of locally grown fresh produce and try this delicious recipe from Abbe Sturman**

### SNITTERFIELD STRAWBERRY SHORTCAKE

This is a fantastic summer recipe that looks stunning. It is very simple and quick. Raspberries, blueberries and blackberries can all be used in this shortcake. Preheat oven to 230°C (450°F) Gas mark 8. Lightly grease a rectangular baking tray.

#### Cake base (makes 2)

- 500 grams self-raising flour
- 50 grams sugar
- 125 grams butter
- 1 egg
- 150 ml sour milk or sour cream (to sour milk: add 1 tsp of vinegar to milk)
- 284ml double cream
- 400 grams strawberries
- 30 ml maple syrup (optional)

Combine flour and sugar in a bowl. Cut butter into the flour mixture using 2 knives (shake the bowl now and then to bring the lumps to the top). Combine egg and sour milk or sour cream. Stir the egg mixture into the flour mixture. Mix well but do not over mix.



The dough will be quite wet. Wet hands and divide the dough into 2 equal amounts. On the baking tray spread each half of dough into a 6 inch (approx) circle.

Bake for 15-20 minutes watching closely as they burn easily. Remove from oven. Using a fork or skewer make small holes in the bases and drizzle on the maple syrup. Leave to cool.

While the bases are cooling, whip the double cream until firm. Add 1 tsp vanilla extract if desired. Wash and hull the strawberries. Slice them thinly. Spread half of the cream over the first base. Add half the strawberries. Cover with the second base and the remaining cream. Arrange the remaining strawberries decoratively on top. Assemble a few hours before serving to allow the flavours to develop.

## BYGONE SNITTERFIELD EXHIBITION

Bob Foster has now gathered enough information to mount an exhibition of old, and not so old, photographs of the village on the morning of **Saturday 8 November at the Village Hall.**

Please put the date in your diary. Bob would still like to hear from anybody who has material that might be of interest.



On the day Bob hopes many of you will be able to help with names and dates – for example: Who are these gentlemen outside the church around 1940?



## Museum and Visitor Centre Aeronautical Gallery open

The Aeronautical Gallery located on Gospel Oak Lane near Snitterfield has unveiled phase one of its new development.

The owners, James and Jayne Wigington, say the Gallery is a relevant part of the Defra sponsored museum as it is situated on a former World War II Royal Airforce training base.

Visitors to the gallery will find a selection of World War I and II model aircraft as well as a range of locally commissioned contemporary art images.

Children will be excited by the new, appropriately designed soft play equipment and adults can relax with light refreshments. The remainder of the museum, including an a la carte restaurant, Lantarka's, is due to open shortly.

James or Jayne Wigington can be contacted for further details and bookings on 01789 262468.



## SNIPE 2009 CALENDAR ON SALE FROM SEPT

Ensure you get a limited edition SNIPE 2009 Calendar for yourself, friends or family. Illustrated with a selection of old photographs, a wonderful reminder of Snitterfield village in bygone days.

Calendars can be bought from the Snitterfield Stores or from the SNIPE team by telephone on 731367 or 731852 or 731458. Email: [studio@smart-works.co.uk](mailto:studio@smart-works.co.uk).

Payment can be made by cash or cheque (made payable to Snipe Newsletter), or by internet (email order to above address, we will confirm payment details and delivery). Only £5 each, plus post & packing £3 UK, (overseas depending on location).

£5



## SNIPER'S CORNER



Are you a good neighbour? Recent press coverage of police carrying out an early morning raid, finding drugs at a home in Snitterfield raises concern about inappropriate placings of families by Housing Associations and councils. Apart from bringing the village into disrepute, loud music (which can be heard several streets away), revving cars and threatening behaviour must be just some of the problems endured by long-suffering residents who now find themselves having to live with this. We are lucky to have law-abiding, thoughtful neighbours, but if yours behave in an anti-social way it must be dreadful.

### SNITTERFIELD POPPY PARTY

Saturday 8 November 2008

At Snitterfield Sports Club

Time 7.30 for 8.00pm

Supper, Bar & Music

Tickets £15.00 per person

Contact Helen Hayter 07876442726

[hayterbramley@aol.com](mailto:hayterbramley@aol.com)

or Caroline Noble 01789 731458

[caroline\\_noble821@hotmail.com](mailto:caroline_noble821@hotmail.com)

All proceeds to be donated to

The Royal British Legion

To celebrate 75 years of Village Hall

### BARN DANCE

SATURDAY 13 SEPTEMBER

IN THE VILLAGE HALL

7.30 till 11.00pm

Music with Greenmanrising  
Bar, Fish and Chips at 8.45pm

Admission by tickets only

£12.50 (children under 16 £7.50)

Tickets from Don Rushton,

The Old Stables, The Green 730276

and Tim Dronsfield, 3 The Gables, 731574

## BONFIRE FUN

Snitterfield Sports  
Club

Sat 1 November 2008

Fireworks, Pig Roast,  
Barbecue & Bar

EVEN BIGGER  
AND BETTER  
THIS YEAR  
SO COME  
ALONG AND  
ENJOY THE  
FUN



[www.safer-neighbourhoods.co.uk/  
your-neighbourhood/stratford-district/  
Wellesbourne/newsletter](http://www.safer-neighbourhoods.co.uk/your-neighbourhood/stratford-district/Wellesbourne/newsletter)

Log on to the **Safer Neighbourhoods** website to find current local information from Warwickshire Police. The website explains how local police teams are working with communities and partner organisations to identify and address local and force-wide policing priorities. The site gives direct contact details for our local Safer Neighbourhood Team. Just enter your postcode or click on the map to find the nearest team.

Building safer neighbourhoods involves the police, partner agencies and, most importantly, local people. Find out how you can help to make a difference where you live or work. More useful information about local meetings and events, local partners and local priorities will be added and updated on a regular basis.

Working together as **Warwickshire Against Domestic Abuse** with other public services and voluntary organisations it aims to tackle the harm caused by domestic abuse. If you or someone you know is affected by emotional, financial, physical or other abuse Freephone 0800 408 1552 or visit [www.talk2someone.org.uk](http://www.talk2someone.org.uk). In an emergency, dial 999.

Available for hire

## SNITTERFIELD Village Hall

Situated in the heart of the village, the hall is the ideal place to hold meetings, events, parties and family gatherings.

The facilities include: main hall, meeting room, kitchen, toilets, electric piano, stage and microphone.

For more information, rates and booking please telephone the secretary, Renata Stephens.



01789 731426

To Snipe Readers –

*After having seemingly lived on the edge of a precipice for the last few months, we cannot fully take in that Stratford District Councillors voted to quash the planning application for a gypsy site in Old Kings Lane. Let's hope this is an end to it. However, vigilance is still required until the eventual fate of the field is decided.*

*Apart from the stress of the ongoing situation, it was also a very emotional time. Our beautiful house and grounds would have been right in the firing line, noise, pollution, loss of privacy and who knows what else.*

*However, we were not alone. Our neighbours in Snitterfield have been so supportive, with their help, ideas and never ending support. We are convinced that we would not have survived this drama without their help, neighbours have turned into friends! A very big thank you to everyone including Snitterfield Parish Council led by Dr John Fitchford, Gerry Stammers for his never ending involvement and professional advice, and to Richard Hobbs our local district councillor for his valuable input.*

*It will seem very quiet now without the meetings, mugs of coffee, emails and constantly searching the internet for the latest information.*

Peter Turner and Anna Smith, The Grove, Kings Lane

