

Braishfield Village Diary

February		
4th Feb	7.30	Braishfield Wives Group in the Church Room Steve Pittis - Butterflies
5th Tues	7.00	Braishfield Parish council
11th Mon	12.00	Lunch Club in the Village Hall
12th Tues	7.30	Braishfield Horticultural Society—Wolfgang Pop, the Curator of the Sir Harold Hillier Gardens
28th Thur	7.30	Braishfield Flower Arrangement Society A Long & Winding Road Pamela Welch
March		
3rd Mon	7.30	Braishfield Wives Group in the Church Room
4th Tues	7.00	Braishfield Parish council
7th Fri	7.00	BSA Race Night (see page 28) Women's World Day of Prayer at the United Re- formed Church (see page 21)
10th Mon	12.00	Lunch Club in the Village Hall
11th Tues	7.30	Braishfield Horticultural Society—Geoffrey Marsh, subject "Visitors to Our Gardens"
27th Thur	7.30	Braishfield Flower Arrangement Society Spring has Sprung Liz Farrington
Weekly		
Weds	10-12	Braishfield Toddler Group
Thurs	10-12	Braishfield Art Group

All functions take place in the Village Hall unless otherwise stated.
Please send details to the Editor if you would like dates of forthcoming events published.

BRAISHFIELD Village Association NEWS

Issue 167 February 2008



Six of your seven Parish Councillors
left to right, Dorothy Ross, Mike Prince (Chairman), Mike Edwards (Vice
Chairman) Standing - Kate Marshall, Andrew Lalonde and Carole Renvoize

Distributed free of charge by the Braishfield Village Association
to the residents of Braishfield and the surrounding hamlets

Braishfield Village Association

Committee 2004-2005

Chairman	George Elliott	368306
Secretary	Rosie Groves	368178
Treasurer	Sheila Still	368384
BVA News Editor	Mike Stevens	367801
News Distributor	Ros Chaplin	368483
Website	Chris Balchin	368427
Committee	David Protheroe	367003
	Graham Bennett	368109
	Rosalie Gurr	368315

Editors Notes

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Written items for the 'News' should be sent to:-

NEW ADDRESS

The BVA Editor

Goodhope

Stockbridge Road

Timsbury

Hants SO51 ONG by the date shown below.

Copy may be hand written, typed or on PC media but, ideally, by e-mail to news@mikopy.com

All items for publication must show the name, address and telephone number of the originator. Letters to the Editor should be on topics relevant to the villagers of Braishfield. The BVA attempts to deliver a copy of the Braishfield Residents Guide and the Village Design Statement to all new residents. If you have not received these publications please contact the News Distributor, Ros Chaplin on 36848

Latest Copy date for the next issue is
15th March 2008

From the Chairman

safeguarding the affairs of the village is well recognised. All of us appreciate his interest in our concerns and that of the Parish over many years. However, Andrew is remaining on the Council and will continue his good work, and hopefully, his less arduous duties will provide the opportunity for him to return to full health in the coming spring. Thank you, Andrew, for maintaining a firm hand on the tiller during your time in office. Also, we wish Mike Prince, our new Chairman, a good innings to come.

The New Year brings good news for the Village Hall. Richard Brazier has agreed to be Chairman of the Village Hall Committee, a post long vacant. I am sure the Hall Committee will be pleased, as the members have maintained together, the many strands necessary to run the activity of the Hall successfully. The Chairman will fulfil a much needed function and ensure that the Village Hall is enjoyed and appreciated by all.

Our gardens may be in a mess but, excitedly, the snowdrops are breaking out everywhere which may mean that spring is on her way....

George Elliott
Chairman

do hope you all have a happy 2008. It may be reflected in our New Year resolutions which we have made. There is all the difference in the world between breaking a commitment, which seemed good at the time, and doing a certain amount of fine tuning and adjustment. This country is now noted for its EU opt-outs, a policy which we can adopt too!

Turn to nature and spot the signs of the season. Any day now, particularly in March, the sharp-eyed walker may notice small tufts of small grey and white hair scattered among the turf and tussocks. A closer look reveals rabbit fur. It is easy to assume these are traces of a fox's snack, but in fact they are the evidence of 'bucking' bunnies - proof that the spring mating season is well under way. The tell-tale fur comes from scuffles between animals fighting to ensure the survival of their genes.

I know you would wish me to acknowledge the work carried out by Andrew Lalonde, who retired in November of last year as Chairman of the Parish Council. His term of office stretched over 12 years since May 1995. His leadership of the Council and valuable service in promoting Braishfield and

Your Letters

Braishfield Lunch Club

Starting in January 2008 Braishfield Church Lunch Club will be meeting in the Village Hall until the Church room is refurbished. Times are the same - the second Monday of the month (apart from August) starting at 12 p.m. All welcome. Thank you Juliet Edwards, Barnside Church lane, Braishfield.

'GHOST TRAIN' AUDIENCE RAISES FUNDS FOR CHILDREN IN NEED

BMADS is pleased to report that the proceeds of the raffle held on Friday 16th November's performance of Arnold Ridley's play 'The Ghost Train' amounted to £110. This has been donated to the BBC Children in Need Appeal.

Many thanks to all who contributed for your generosity.

Richard Groves
Treasurer, Braishfield Music and Drama Society

SOCIAL CONTACT GROUP

At the beginning of December our members enjoyed a Christmas get together in the Village Hall and over coffee and mince pies much fun was had in making crackers to take home. However, the highlight of the morning was the beautiful singing by the Braishfield School Choir and although they were small in number, their singing and happy faces reminded us all that Christmas was just around the corner.

Our next event is a New Year lunch at Eastleigh College on Jan 16th and a fun session of coffee and bingo is planned for Wednesday 12th March at 10.00 am.

We always welcome new members who live in the village to join us and make friends and if you would like to know more about us, our aims and the planned events then please contact Gill Allison on (01794) 522965

Have you got a funny story for the news fun page
Please e-mail it to me
news@mikopy.com

Web Site Update

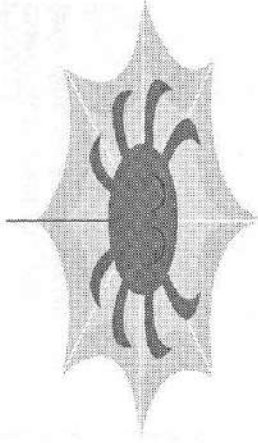
look on web-site for details
Test Valley Tapestry - did you know about how the Test Valley and Braishfield tapestries came about - find out on this page
Footpaths - from the Residents Guide with updated map
Commercial Services - local services - any missing?

Supporting Advertisers - these are the companies that make the BVA financially viable without subscriptions - please support them
Braishfield Weather - as mentioned above

Future pages in the pipeline include - Then & Now - a photographic comparison of photographs from the Braishfield Memories and now. Photo Gallery - please submit your photographs - digital or celluloid (I will scan them in and return the original). Braishfield News on the web - would you prefer to read the News on-line and save paper ? Your views - collect and share views on topics of interest to the Village e.g. 30 mph extension, Bunny Lane use, Abbotswood plans etc

What else would YOU like to see on the web-site? Please give me input by any communication method and I will see what I can do. I only maintain the web-site for you - during the last month the site had 44 visits with an average view time of 2:30 minutes - were you one of those visitors ?

Chris Balchin,



Have you visited the Braishfield web-site recently ? It has recently had a face-lift and new pages added. There is now a weather report page of Braishfield starting in Jan 2007 courtesy of Geoff Daniell - what you remember of the weather always seems to differ from reality - check out your memory of the Summer of 2007.

In addition the following pages are live:

Diary - Anything missing - you do not need to wait until the next News to insert a new diary entry
Residents Guide - currently not the easiest page to navigate - I am working on it

Parish Council - with links to the John Rhodes web-site for PC minutes, planning applications, conservation policy, listed buildings etc
Braishfield Village Association - the who, what and where of the BVA

Churches - the who and when of the churches

Braishfield School - links to the Braishfield school web-site - currently being updated

History - a potted history of the village history from the Braishfield Memories book - still available -

Bee Diary

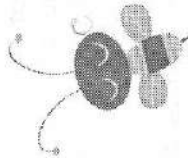
December is an inactive time for both bees and beekeepers. The short days and low temperature combine to keep the bees within the hive, only venturing forth if the sun comes out and the temperature rises. I'm told that the best breeds of bee will take nectar and pollen from a snowdrop, but one wonders if it is worth their effort.

January is a month of lowest ebb in the beehive. The bee population has been falling since August and will continue to do so for a least another month. Nonetheless, deep within the cluster, the queen senses the turn of the seasons and will start to lay a slowly expanding area of eggs in the brood frames. Most of the month it will be too cold for the worker bees to venture forth from the hive, but on the odd sunny day they will do so and re-turn with the first pollen of the year, from willow. This pollen is

essential to feed the young larvae, providing necessary protein for growth. Water is another commodity that worker bees risk leaving the safety of the hive to procure. Water is needed to dissolve the hard solid honey in the combs. Another sunny day activity for the bees is the cleansing flight. Woe-betide the housewife who hangs out the washing when bees are thus engaged - a mass of yellow specks on the washing (and the car's paint-work) is the result of all those bees' knees that have been crossed since October.

For the beekeeper, one can only lift the hives to check their weight. In recent years with warm Septembers, it has meant that feeding bees is virtually a thing of the past; they manage to fill the hives with ivy honey during the warm Indian summer.

A Busy Bee



Rubbish News

Please note the following from the recent Bin Collection Days calendar sent out by Test Valley which was not explicit before
Recyclable materials in cardboard boxes left beside the brown bin on recycling weeks will be collected throughout the year

Recycle weeks beginning 6th & 20th Feb. 5th & 19th March

Household weeks beginning 13th, 27th Feb. 12th & 26th March

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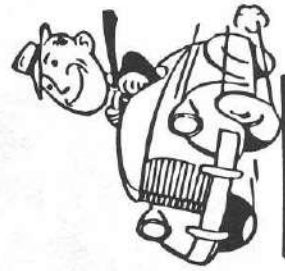
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Braishfield School

AFRICAN DRUM & DANCE WORKSHOP

On Friday 4th January Saplings and Oaks went to the village hall and met a man called Felix, who came from Ghana. He taught us how to do African dancing and drumming. In the morning we had a go at drumming and dancing, then in the afternoon we could choose which to do.

I chose to drum because I like playing the drums. Quite a lot of people chose to dance and they learnt some new dance moves to African music.

There were lots of different types of instruments to play including shakers, drums and scrapers. We used our hands to play the drums and we learnt some African drum patterns.

At the end of the afternoon we did a performance to the rest of the school using the drums and dancing.

It was a special day for me because it was my birthday and I didn't have to do school work!

Yameen Akouiradjemou
Year 4

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Braishfield Horticultural Society

As I sit, gazing at a blank screen, hoping for some form of inspiration to appear, it occurs to me that there are only 344 days to Christmas. Now that may sound like a long time, but, with the speed at which the days seem to pass in this day and age, maybe it would have been a good idea to have left the decorations in place. Think of the work it would it would save.

With the New Year well established, we have already enjoyed our first Monthly Meeting when we welcomed Ray Broughton into our midst for the second year running, by popular demand. Ray is an excellent Speaker who will hold the attention of an audience on a variety of subjects. He trained at Wisley Gardens in the mid 1970's and has been teaching a wide range of subjects for 28 years. He is a Senior Examiner for the Royal Horticultural Society and teaches staff and students at the Society's Garden at Wisley. Ray's present post is that of Senior Lecturer at Sparsholt College. His subject on "Topical Tips and New Ideas", was not only most informative, but at times highly amusing. Who would have thought, for example, of using gray granules to dress the wound on a tree after removing a limb. Apparently the proprietary paints usually prescribed for this purpose prevent the wound from healing. It must be gray granules though,

not the powder. The mind boggles. Ray and a colleague of his, have together been writing a book, which has yet to be published and which will cover much of which his talk was about, but in much greater detail. It is to be published in U S A, which apparently is the norm these days, although there is a delay at present, due to some problem with the mighty dollar. Look out for it, there is a good read waiting in the wings.

The evening, which passed all too quickly, was enjoyed by everyone present and I am sure that the name of Ray Broughton will appear on our future programmes in the very near future.

Our next Speaker on Tuesday 12th February will be Wolfgang Pop, the Curator of the Sir Harold Hillier Gardens. His subject of "From The Past Into The Future", promises to continue our run of successful Meetings. He will be followed by Geoffrey Marsh, who will talk to us on the subject of "Visitors to Our Gardens", on Tuesday March 11th. I am sure that he will not be referring to the two legged human variety.

On Tuesday 8th April, Carol Watson will be with us to compare wild flowers with our garden varieties. That same evening is also the occasion of the Annual Spring Show, the schedule for which can be found on the back of your Pro-

grammes. Please do your best to support the event. Finally, taking us up to the June break, Stuart Pocock will be with us once more on Tuesday May 13th to talk about the things he knows so well, Roses. Be sure to come along.

As most people are already aware, The Flower Show this year will be on Saturday 5th July when, once again we will join in with the Village Fayre. Whilst realising that it is a little early to get excited there is one important item I would like to mention now. The stalls we operate do play an important part in raising the funds on which we rely. If anyone has books that are no longer wanted, can you please hang on

to them until later in the year, when, we will be pleased to receive them. Hardbacks, Softbacks, Fictional or Educational, all will be most welcome.

There being nothing more to report at this time, I will sign off, but not before an update on the feline activities. He is now taking an even greater interest in computing, struggles to take over my seat at the desk and fights me for possession of the keyboard. Perhaps my only way out is to sneak into another room with the laptop. Hey Ho! Who said that we humans were indispensable??? Mee-ow.

Bob Thomson
BHS Secretary & Scribe

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Braishfield United Reform Church

Our project for 2007 has now drawn to a close with the fabulous amount of £2330.00 for Water Aid. A representative from Water Aid will be visiting out on the 17th February 2008 to collect the cheque. Everybody is welcomed to come long to this service which will be followed by light refreshments.

The money was raised by holding

Pat Taylor

coffee mornings, raffles, Humble Bumble and once again a sherry and mince pies evening at the home of Rusty and Shirley Smith.

The appreciation of our church goes out to all who have provided a variety of venues and to all who have helped and supported these events

Parish Council Members

In May 2007 in an uncontested election, there being 7 candidates for 7 places, Braishfield Parish Council had three new members. In December 2007, Andrew Lalonde, the longest serving member and Chairman for 12 years, resigned as Chairman but remains as a member of the Council.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Andrew for his invaluable contribution as Chairman over this period and look forward to his guidance and experience in the future.

Front Page photo of 6 of the Parish Council taken at the January Meeting on the 15th, the one missing member being Simon Palmer.

Advertising Charges for 2007/8 in The Braishfield Village News

1 year half page	£60
1 issue half page	£12
1 year full page	£120
1 issue full page	£24

All adverts are chargeable unless they are specifically to benefit the village with no other independent financial gain. The editors decision is final regarding charging for advertisements.

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Apparently

Sidney Smith said that there are three things that every man thinks he can do - drive a gig, edit a newspaper and run a farm. Surprisingly, none of these activities have got any easier, particularly planting hedges.

Defra in their wisdom are encouraging the planting of hedges; it is part of the Country Stewardship Scheme and we are now in year four. We've lots more birds, butterflies, insects, deer, rabbits, hares, peasannts and stray dogs, so it's working as planned. One part of the scheme is to remove and replant two old straggly hedges. Some are good Saxon hedges which have lasted well and cost several hundred pounds worth of attention a year, but two which were looking sad after 500 years!

It is quite a business, but we are getting there. Year one - permission from two authorities to remove the old hedge; year two was ditto to plant anew. This was organised by a professional agent at £350 per day, which involves using a spade and me taking my jacket off.? The length is about a quarter of a mile, close to a lane now used by middle class walkers, but for 1000 years the path was for ploughmen - homeward plodding their weary way.

It's not easy digging; too many tree roots and debris over the centuries, the remains of broken harness and horseshoes, flints taken from blocked harrows and chucked into the hedge (I've been doing that

for exactly 50 years), but, sadly, no Roman remains in this hedge and not a single sovereign.

I prepared the hedge line in Year Three by spraying Roundup and sub-soiling, as per instructions. The soil analysis was good, and every spade revealed protesting worms, which questioned the need for analysis. After two days planting in an east wind my enemies the deer decided it was fun to pull up the plants with their funny little plastic spirals and canes. It was necessary to replant, sometimes more than once. Teenage deer, apparently suffer from the same boredom and cussedness as the human species!

So there it is; if it lives the hedge has a long life before it. There will sure to be deaths along the line from drought, frost, global warming, rabbits, hares, rats and deer, but in twenty years it will play its intended part as being a valuable feature of the English countryside.

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Fun Page - Fractured English

- In a Tokyo Hotel:**
Is forbidden to steal hotel towels please. If you are not a person to do such thing is please not to read notice.
In a Bucharest hotel lobby:
The lift is being fixed for the next day. During that time we regret that you will be unbearable.
In a Leipzig elevator:
Do not enter the lift backwards, and only when lit up.
In a Belgrade hotel elevator:
To move the cabin, push button for wishing floor. If the cabin should enter more persons, each one should press a number of wishing floor. Driving is then going alphabetically by national order.
In a Paris hotel elevator:
Please leave your values at the front desk.
In a hotel in Athens:
Visitors are expected to complain at the office between the hours of 9 and 11 A.M. daily.
In a Yugoslavian hotel:
The flattening of underwear with pleasure is the job of the chambermaid.
In a Japanese hotel:
You are invited to take advantage of the chambermaid.
In the lobby of a Moscow hotel across from a Russian Orthodox monastery:
You are welcome to visit the cemetery where famous Russian and Soviet composers, artists, and writers are buried daily except Thursday.
In an Austrian hotel catering to skiers:
Not to perambulate the corridors in the hours of repose in the boots of ascension.
On the menu of a Swiss restaurant:
Our wines leave you nothing to hope for.
On the menu of a Polish hotel:
Salad a firm's own make; limpид red beet soup with cheesy dumplings in the form of a finger; roasted duck let loose; beef rashers beaten up in the country people's fashion.
Outside a Hong Kong tailor shop:
Ladies may have a fit upstairs.
In a Bangkok dry cleaners:
Drop your trousers here for best results.
Outside a Paris dress shop:
Dresses for street walking.
In a Rhodes tailor shop:
Order your summers suit. Because is big rush we will execute customers in strict rotation.
A sign posted in Germany's Black forest:
It is strictly forbidden on our black forest camping site that people of different sex, for instance, men and women, live together in one tent unless they are married with each other for that purpose.
In a Zurich hotel:
Because of the impropriety of entertaining guests of the opposite sex in the bedroom, it is suggested that the lobby be used for this purpose.
In an advertisement by a Hong Kong dentist:
Teeth extracted by the latest Methodists.
In a Rome laundry:

- Ladies, leave your clothes here and spend the afternoon having a good time.
In a Swiss mountain inn:
Special today - no ice cream.
In a Bangkok temple:
It is forbidden to enter a woman even a foreigner if dressed as a man.
In a Copenhagen airline ticket office:
We take your bags and send them in all directions.
On the door of a Moscow hotel room:
If this is your first visit to the USSR, you are welcome to it.
In a Norwegian cocktail lounge:
Ladies are requested not to have children in the bar.
In a Budapest zoo:
Please do not feed the animals. If you have any suitable food, give it to the guard on duty.
In the office of a Roman doctor:
Specialist in women and other diseases.

- In an Acapulco hotel:**
The manager has personally passed all the water served here.
In a Tokyo shop:
Our nylons cost more than common, but you'll find they are best in the long run.
From a Japanese information booklet about using a hotel air conditioner:
Cooles and Heates: If you want just condition of warm in your room, please control yourself.
From a brochure of a car rental firm in Tokyo:
When passenger of foot heave in sight, tootle the horn. Trumpet him melodiously at first, but if he still obstacles your passage then tootle him with vigor.
Two signs from a Majorcan shop entrance:
English well talking. - Here speeching American.

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Braishfield Flower Arrangement Society

Open Evening

WOW is the one word which best describes our Christmas Demonstration by Christine Steven. The theme for the evening was 'The Magic of Christmas' and Christine's flair of innovative and extravagant designs filled the stage with colour and light. This undeniably sent everyone home with ideas and a feel good factor that Christmas is indeed a magical time and would be with us very soon.

As this is our major fund raising event, we are pleased to report that we raised £150.00 for our nominated charity, Motor Neurone Disease.

Congratulations to Maggie Batchelor who won the flower arrangement competition

Christmas Workshop

Following our open evening we held our Christmas Workshop where over coffee and mince pies, members were able to make their table decorations and door swags.

Meetings for 2008

All our members wish you a very happy & prosperous New Year and hope that this is the year you decide to give us a try. We are a small but extremely friendly society and have demonstrators and speakers each month giving us inspiration & ideas so if you love flowers and flower arranging why not come along on the 4th Thursday of each month to the Village Hall at 7.30. For further information about our Society please telephone Maggie Batchelor on 368125

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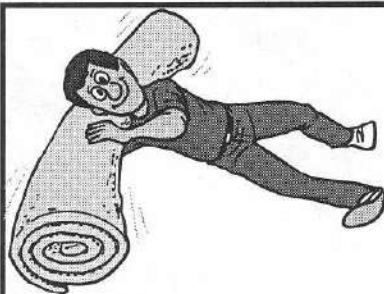
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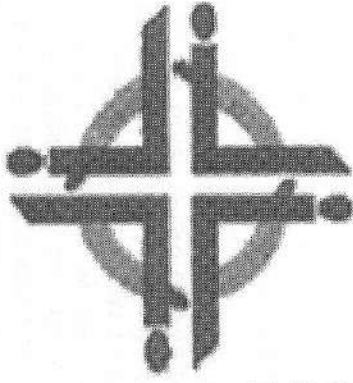


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*Women across the world
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The Braishfield service will be held at the United Reformed Church at 7 30pm on Friday 7th March. The speaker will be Sue Halliwell, an Anglican reader, who lives in Awbridge. Afterwards there will be tea or coffee and a chance to meet friends and to make new acquaintances. Do come along if you can - you will be sure of a warm welcome.

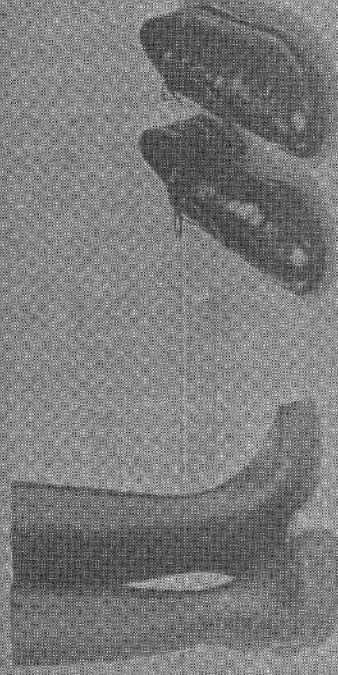
Women from Guyana have prepared this year's service. The theme is 'God's Wisdom Provides New Understanding'. Some of us remember Guyana from our schooldays as British Guiana, before independence in 1970. It is a country with a broad mix of ethnic backgrounds and although part of the South American continent, it shares the cultural background of the Caribbean. Guyana means 'Land of Many Waters' - very appropriate for a country with lakes, huge wetlands and mighty rivers. One of the four rivers flowing north to the ocean is the Demerara - so now you know where the sugar, and the song, come from! Women in Guyana today know they are the beneficiaries of courageous women who dared to challenge customs, practices and negative and inhuman structures which had hindered their growth and development.

More information about the organization is available at www.wwdp-natcomm.org.

Hannah Boothman Branch Secretary

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Sheep Matters at Elm Grove

Kate is battling against very wet soggy weather at the moment - the areas around the hay racks are muddy, paths taken by the sheep are muddy and she wants to bring some more of her boy lambs from Woolley Green where they've been for a few weeks, but she can't as it's too muddy. By the time you read this we'll all have drowned under mud or we'll be complaining it's too dry!

Some of you will have had a flier through your door about the 'Boxed Lamb' and indeed some will have already have taken delivery of one. The advertisement in this edition of the news tells how to contact Kate and Ian to order one; some people are sharing one between two which seems quite a good idea - talk to Kate about it.

In December we were left in charge whilst Kate and Ian had a well-deserved break - only five days and of course we'd be happy to keep an eye on the sheep. Before they went she took me round and explained everything 'It hasn't happened before, but yesterday the ewes in this field broke through the electric fence. I was able to separate them and put it to rights. I don't suppose it'll happen again but if it does, you have to mend the fence in case the wire gets caught round their legs and, as you won't be able to sort them, just leave the hurdle gates open so they can go back and forth.' Wonderful!

The rams had been in with the ewes for about three weeks by this time and the ewes were in three separate sections each with one ram, surrounded by electric fencing. There is a rule which says you either have one ram with ewes or three; if there are three two fight and the other gets on with his job, two together just fight! There was also a section of boy lambs that were less advanced than the boys we were having to feed.

The first day was fine - we fed the boy lambs that were being fattened up and walked round - all OK. In the afternoon I could see a sheep struggling at the water trough near the cricket pitch. We went over and Hey Presto, one of the little boys was on his hind legs with his front legs over the far side of the water trough, with a strand of barbed wire directly above his legs. The mind boggles as to how he got himself into that position. Fortunately, we were able to disconnect the wire from the fence post, and cut the wool from the barbed wire to release his legs. Fearing that he may have harmed himself in process we lifted him up very gingerly and eased him back onto the ground; all the time I was saying 'Don't kick me, don't kick me'. He was very good and didn't struggle; he just shook himself and ran off to join his brothers with not a word of thanks!

Sunday was a beautiful cold and

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Sheep Matters at Elm Grove (cont)

frosty day and it became apparent that there were rather a lot of sheep where they shouldn't be. One lot had broken through the electric fence, which resulted in a section of lambs being mixed up with one lot of ewes with their ram. Oh dear! There was wire spread over the field, connectors far and wide and supports bent. Heeding Kate's words, we spent time mending the fence, putting it all to rights and leaving the hurdle gates open so the ram could get where he wanted. Elsewhere, a flat battery on another stretch of fencing meant we had to put it on the charger over night but otherwise all was well.

Monday was another beautiful day, which was just as well as they had broken the electric fence again - amazing! We were also rather concerned that the ram in that area was showing great interest in the ewes over the permanent fence to the top field rather than his own ewes. What to do? Simple - remove the twice broken fence and put it to elsewhere to be added protection from this ram. Hundreds of yards of wire to move to a different place then attach it to the newly positioned supports - how to do it? We remembered that Kate has a 'Rappa Barrow' which winds the wire out for erecting fencing, so, it must also work the other way too. (The description on the web site for Rappa Barrows states 'Just one person can erect

or dismantle one to four lines quickly and simply'.) Hunting it out, we experimented and after several attempts, when it finally tangled the wire further, we wound up one strand - what a sense of achievement - only two more strands to go. This time we did both at the same time and it worked! So, pulling out the supports then taking everything to the new position, all that remained was to erect it. It was a beautiful day and we really enjoyed being outside while we did it and considering it was our first time, an hour and a half wasn't bad!

Tuesday all was well and life was dandy; Wednesday was not bad either, apart from a broken fence tester and a low battery. Our period of responsibility was nearly over and the weather was still gorgeous.

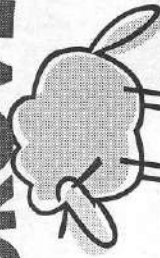
Thursday was our last full day and Peter had to check things on his own. The sheep in the bottom fields were behaving very well but the top fields! The two parallel rows of fencing between the two groups had been broken and all the ewes and both the rams were in the same section with the rams barging and being aggressive to each other. What to do? (again!). Before trying to sort the fencing Peter rang a friend of Kate's for advice and he said that as the rams had been in with the ewes for a few weeks they wouldn't have

enough energy to do themselves a lot of harm. Relieved, all that remained was to mend the fencing; hundreds of yards of tangled wire was spread over a very large area and connectors and supports were flung far and wide - what had been going on? (It is thought that a deer could have been the culprit) Many hours later the fencing was put back in place and the rams had been separated with the ewes divided into two very unequal lots. By this time there were two of us and armed with a bucket with some feed in it (they'll do anything for sheep nuts) we managed to get them into better order. Wow! Kate does this all the time - her day job is with a very large flock - can you imagine the strife they can get into

- although she does have a dog to help her!

Kate and Ian came home the next day and Kate's first question was 'Have any of them died?' Having looked after them for just five days, one can quite see how that is the first thought. It is said that as soon as a sheep wakes up in the morning it thinks 'How can I harm myself today?'. All the same, we do like them and they are an endless source of amusement. It is nice to have them around especially when it is someone else's responsibility to worry about lameness and mud and whether people will be happy with their 'Boxed Lamb'. Enjoy!
Wendy and Peter Quarendon.

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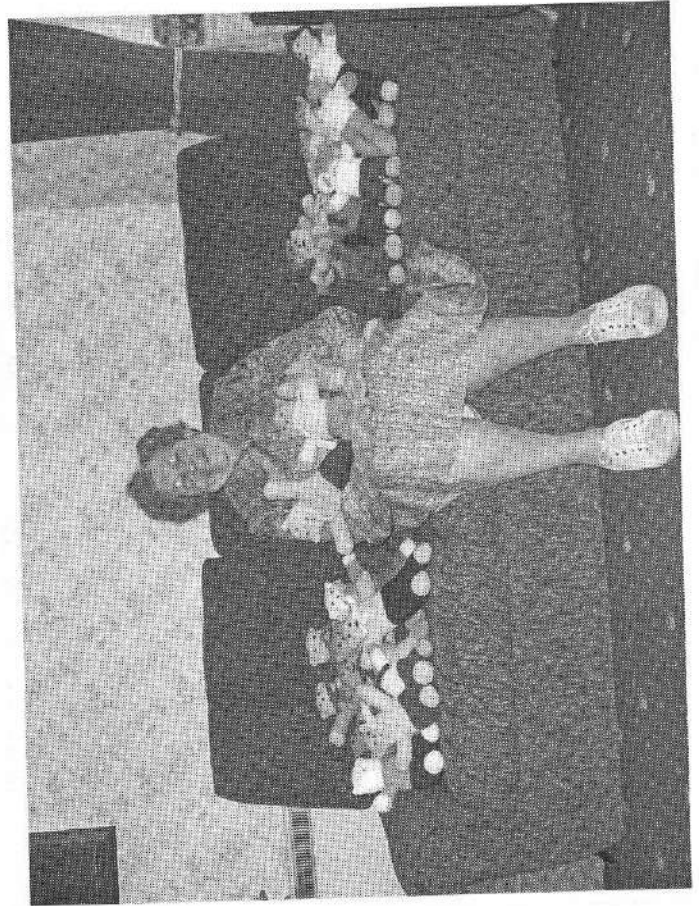
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phanages where now the children have a teddy to cuddle at night.

As you can see from the photo, Mrs Freda Smith has been extremely busy knitting over 50 teddies for this charity and with your help will make it to 100. If anyone has any spare knitting wool, any colour, or any suitable material for stuffing, please will you contact Freda on 367850. If there are any knitters who would also like to knit a teddy or two, then Freda will pass on the pattern.

Well done Freda, keep up the good work!



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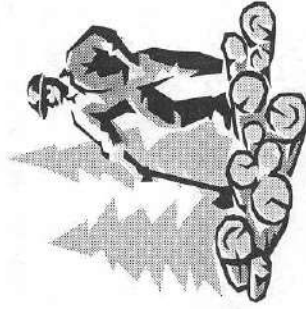
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Friday 7th March (from 7 pm in Village Hall)
marks the return of the Braishfield School Associations most successful evening event - ever!

Everyone of age 18+ are invited to an evening of excitement and crazy fun as you simply pick your nag, place your bet, and pray.

Exciting and hilarious from the start, this superb big screen racing with winning purely based on chance and absolutely nothing else - just can't be missed.

Beat those winter blues; come along on your own or with as many friends as you can muster to an outstanding value for money evening of enjoyment.

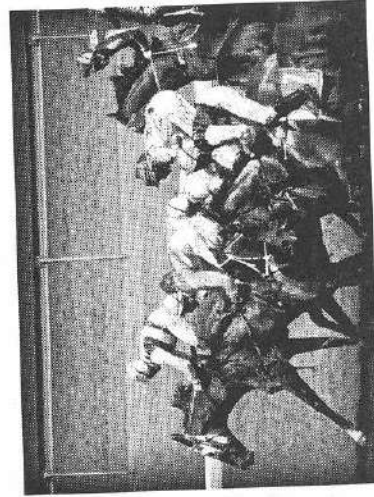
A substantial punters ploughman supper is to be served during a short break in the racing where a showing of photographs from the past years Summer Fayre can be enjoyed.

This will highlight the purpose of the evening, aimed at raising funds to support the education of the children at our treasured Primary School.

Your support is appreciated - and we promise you will enjoy making the effort.

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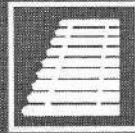
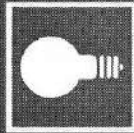
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Braishfield Parish Council Notes

This report on the Parish Council covers the Council's meetings held on 4th December 2007 and 15th January 2008.

It was explained to the Parish Council that the Southern Test Valley Voluntary Transport Scheme (STVTS) is to be merged with that run by Test Valley Community Services. This is to do with the fact that both organisations are being run by the same person and also the availability of volunteer drivers at certain times. STVTS will cease to exist as a separate entity on 31st March 2008. The Parish Council agreed to make a donation of £200 to the new organisation as it benefits the people of Braishfield.

Test Valley Borough Council has been involved in the naming of the two new houses being built at the end of Hill View. The Parish Council has asked that they additionally be given numbers in order to make their location more obvious to the emergency services.

The broken Common Hill Road sign was reported to Test Valley last November and again in December, but it has now been repaired just recently.

You may have seen the new railings along the footpath in

The overhead power lines will go underground through the Abbotswood site and this opens up the possibility of burying the lines along the length between Abbotswood and the Arboretum. The Arboretum possibility is being handled by the Hampshire County Council Estates Department. Apparently Hampshire County Council has not yet agreed a timescale for this work which fits in with that of the Abbotswood developer.

The Council has been in touch with Barker and Geary who supplied the dipping platform at the pond. They are still using the same design but have suggested fitting another plank on to the top of the existing rail in order to address the concern expressed in the Braishfield Village News. The Council agreed to carry out this work.

A planning application has been re-submitted for a 300kw generator at Upper Slackstead Farm using wood imported from a waste management site. This matter is being handled by Hampshire County Council's Minerals and Waste Planning Department and the site is actually located in Hursley Parish which comes under Winchester City Council. One reason why Braishfield Parish Council is so concerned about this application is that the large delivery lorries plan to come through Braishfield

passing the School and travelling along Common Hill Road and Dores Lane.

The Council heard a long statement from a Slackstead resident about how another similar plant in Wales uses far more waste wood (with greater lorry movements) than that claimed in this application. Furthermore there was little useful use planned for the 600kw of heat generated by the process. There are also significant questions about other traffic movements associated with the existing site.

The Parish Council's view is that the application is a waste management request, situated in the wrong place because a) the fuel has to be imported along very narrow inadequate lanes and b) there is little possibility of using the waste heat. Apparently making use of the waste heat is a Government prerequisite for this type of site, but it remains to be seen whether the rules are applied here. The Council feels that the generation of 300kw of electricity and the production of 600kw of heat is much more appropriate at a site like Abbotswood rather than Upper Slackstead Farm. The Council will be sending in a very strong objection in the next few days.

The TVBC Planning Authority dealt with a number of applications as follows:

Reference	Address	Alterations	Permission
07/225 0/F	Malthouse Farm	Alterations	Permission
07/260 2/F	Little Grange, Braishfield Road	Extension	Permission
07/285 3/F	2 The Square, Braishfield Road	Garage + Study	Permission
07/297 3/F	Church Rooms, Church Lane	Single storey extension	Permission
07/269 9/CLES	Spinney Corner, Church Lane	Change of use of agricultural land	Permission

The Council received a number of planning applications and responded to TVBC as follows:

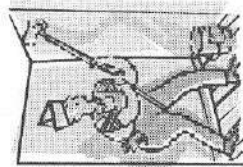
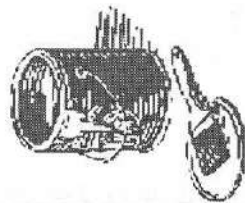
Reference	Address	Alterations	Response
07/331 9/F	Hunters Lodge, Dores Lane	Replacement dwelling	Support
07/334 2/F	Holmsleigh, Braishfield Road	Alterations and additions	Support
HCC/2 007/02 79	Upper Slackstead Farm	300kw Generator	Very strong objection
07/327 8/T	1, Pond Cottages, Braishfield Road	Tree work	No objection

For information on planning applications in Braishfield and for copies of Parish Council Minutes etc, you can find these on johnbrhodes.supanet.com/braishfield

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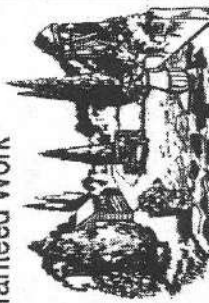
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Braishfield In The Beggining

8th January 1979

Proposed Cemetery at Crookhill
The Clerk reported receipt of a letter from Test Valley Borough Council stating that it would "keep the request under review should the Council decide to provide a Cemetery in the vicinity of Crookhill".

Fencing Opposite Exit to Hill View
Resolved that arrangements be initiated for the provision of an "L" shaped fence on the recreation ground, opposite the exit to Hill View, to prevent children from running onto the highway.

Treatment of Roads

Resolved that the attention of the Divisional Surveyor be drawn to the concern expressed by many local residents at the extremely limited degree of treatment to roads in the Test Valley division during the recent heavy snowfall; and that particular attention is drawn to the extremely dangerous conditions that prevailed at the junction of the Braishfield Road with the A31 (Winchester Road).

12th February 1979

Refuse collection

Reference was made to the fact that the refuse collection service had been temporarily withdrawn due to industrial action by public services employees. Resolved a) that the Village Association be thanked for arranging for the collection and distribution of refuse disposal bags, and invited to submit

an account for expense incurred in providing this valuable and essential service; and b) that the Environmental Health Department of the Borough Council be congratulated upon its quick and efficient response to the problem.

12th March 1979

Flooding

The Clerk submitted a letter from the Southern Water Authority stating that the state of the water mains in the Braishfield area was being investigated; that the water pressure to the Pitt Farm area had been tested and had been found to be most satisfactory; and that it was not always convenient to give notice to householders of the water being turned off as, particularly in the case of burst water mains, it was often necessary to expedite remedial works as a matter of priority.

Resolved that the Water Authority be asked if notice can be given to householders of the water supply having been turned off where it is not possible to give notice before terminating the supply.

Recreation Ground - motor vehicles
The Chairman reported that complaints had been received of persons driving cars and motor cycles on the recreation ground, thereby eroding the surface.

Resolved that Messrs Tylee, Mortimer and Attlee be asked to advise upon the Council's legal position in this matter.

Hill View - car parking

It was reported that a resident of Hill View wished to provide vehicular access to his property, but had been informed by the County Council that he would be required to make up the access. It was estimated that the cost of meeting the County Council's requirement would be £1000. A neighbour, however, had been permitted to provide access to a lower standard.

Resolved that the Parish Council visit the site.

Watercourses

It was reported that the culvert under the ramp serving the garage at Orchard Rise had been damaged, thus impeding the free flow of water.

It was also reported that the culvert from "Wengen" into the village pond was in need of attention.

Resolved that the Divisional Surveyor be asked to undertake the necessary remedial works as soon as possible.

9th April 1979

Addendum to BMads Article Missed from last issue. Sorry (ed)

Of course, no production is complete without the efforts of those often unsung folk who make everything happen up to and on the night; poster/ticket design (Alan Gurr), ticket sales (Tom & Gemma Quarendon), front of house/raffle (Richard Brazier & Meryl Balchin), drinks of all sorts Tessa Allen, Michael Templeton & helpers).

This was as near perfect a BMADS production as I have seen. Their standard seems to improve year on year. During one of the intervals, I overheard a member of the audience remark "How fortunate Braishfield is to have such a dedicated and talented group of people as BMADS". I so agree. Long may BMADS prosper!

Recreation Ground - motor vehicles
The Clerk reported upon a letter from Messrs Tylee, Mortimer and Attlee confirming that the Parish Council could take any necessary action to secure a discontinuance of abuse of the recreation ground. Resolved that no action be taken at the present time as the unauthorised activities have ceased.

Planning application

Consideration was given to the application of Mr A Dinesen for the construction of a vehicular access at Oaktrees. Resolved that the Borough Council be informed that the Parish Council considers that this road is dangerous and that the problem will be aggravated should this additional access be provided.

Proposed Village Hall

Resolved that in accordance with the recommendation of the Annual Parish Meeting, the Village Hall Management Committee be asked to submit its proposals into the sitting of the proposed village hall; and that, on receipt of this, a site meeting will be held to examine the proposals.